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Poetry.

UNCLE SILAS AND THE UNIVERSE.

"What's all this thing about?" says he,
"Wall, I dunno," says I,
"What good is all this worl' to me,
This lan' an' sea an' sky?
The same ol' thing! Git up an' dress,
An' eat an' work like sin;
Then go to bed, git up an' dress,
An' eat an' work ag'in.
What's all this thing about?" says he.
Says I: "Can't tell ye, John;
But, as for me, I like to see,
To see the thing go on.

"There ain't no end to this machine
An' no man hereabout,
So fur as I have ever seen,
Can tell what it grinds out;
Its belts are hitched to far off gears,
Far out be-end the sun,
An' I've no doubt 'twill run for years
The way it allus run."
"But what's the thing about?" says he;
Says I: "Can't tell ye, John;
But, as for me, I like to see,
To see the thing go on.

"'Tis day an' night an' night an' day,
The same ol' thing," says John.
"I guess it is," says I, "but say,
Let's watch the thing go on.
For all the grass an' things that grow,
An' stars, it seems to me,
Are jest a free-for-nothin' show,
For us deadheads to see,
An' I ain't tired of it yit,
It's pretty middlin', John;
An', as for me, I like to see,
To see the thing go on.

"I like to see tho thing, my friend,
'Tis healthy sport for man,
Though I can't tell ye where 'twill end,
Nor where the thing began."
"What's all the thing about?" "Dunno;
'Tis fun enough for me
To jest lay back an' see the show
An' wonder; yes, sir-ee!
An' so I guess that we are here
An' that's our business, John,
To work an' git ourselves in gear
To help the thing go on."
—Sam Walter Foss in New York Sun.

FIVE O'CLOCK TEA.

Saucers and insincerity;
Clatter of tongues and spoons;
Gossip and spiced asperity,
Atmosphere—good for swoons.
Move, if the swift dexterity
Known to the clown be thine.
That's what you see
At a five o'clock tea
Served in a social shrine.

This is the Game Society
(Spelt with a big big S),
Plays to dispel satiety,
Weariness dispossess.
Tantical insobriety
Varies the dreary round.
Therefore you roam
To a crammed At Home,
Carefully groomed or gowned.

"Awfully glad to see you!"
Awfully good to come!"
The rest, as the damsels tea you,
Is lost in the 'wildering hum.
Nobody comes to free you
Of saucer and spoon and cup;
So you stand and smile
In a vacant style,
And long to be out and up.

Give me an A B C shop,
Lead me to Lockhart's bowers;
Take me to any tea shop
Scorned by the social powers.
Rather, I swear by Aesop,
I'd munch at a penny bun,
Than the cakes and gush
Of a five o'clock crush
Where a hard day's work is done.
—London Sketch.

THREE STAGES.

ACT I.
Sighing like a furnace
Over ears in love,
Blind in adoration
Of his lady's glove;
Thinks no girl was ever
Quite so sweet as she,
Tells you she's an angel,
Expects you to agree.
ACT II.
Moping and repining,
Gloomy and morose,
Asks the price of poison,
Thinks he'll take a dose.
Women are so fickle,
Love is all a sham,
Marriage is a failure,
Like a broken dam.
ACT III.
Whistling blithe and cheerful,
Always blithe and gay,
Dancing, singing, laughing,
All the livelong day;
Full of fun and frolic,
Caught in fashion's whirl,
Thinks no more of poison—
Got another girl!
—Topeka Capital.

Miscellany.

FOOTWEAR.

Slippers for the House Are of Both Chinese and American Make.

A woman who was very fastidious about her shoes and had a craze for odd things went down to Chinatown and invested in a pair of Chinese slippers.

The slippers for women were all too small, so she had to get the men's size. They were heavy, with wooden soles, so she bought fleece-lined soles for them, which kept them from hurting

A SLIPPER FAD.

her feet and made a pretty bedroom slipper.

These slippers were of pale blue satin, embroidered in gold and finished at the top with a dark shade of blue embroidered satin.

The satin slipper, with high tongue, and trimmed with fur, is a favorite of American make. Some prefer the soft red Russia leather slippers without heels. One of the new half shoes is of [illegible] with vamp of patent [illegible]. The top is decorated with a border of hearts cut in the leather.

LIVE TELEPHONE.

MONTANA DEAF MUTE WANTS TO PATENT HIMSELF.

He is Walking to Washington to Do So—Dry Battery Carried In Left Hip Pocket.

J. C. Chester, of Glendive, Mont., has supplied himself with a long-felt want. He is a deaf mute, unable, either from birth or from very early childhood, to hear. Gradually the memory of spoken words left him, and he became what is commonly known as a deaf and dumb person. The name of deaf mute, as everybody now knows, is a misnomer. The organs of speech are unaffected, but the "mute" is unable to speak because he does not know how to use his voice

J. C. Chester has learned to articulate and can make the awful glutteral sounds peculiar to the deaf and dumb speakers. But he is going now to do more. He expects to hear and speak as well as any one. A little clumsily, perhaps, but in a perfectly clear manner.

Like most originators, Mr. Chester has taken advantage of electricity for his advancement, and has so arranged a telephone that it subserves his use.

His scheme is to fit a telephone to his body so that where he travels it shall travel also. When he lies down the telephone lies down. When he walks the telephone walks. His body is the body of the telephone, and there is no life in either without the other. He is a living telephone, able to hear and speak through space.

In spite of a great deal of fun that has been poked at him since the conception of his invention, he has gone on undismayed, until now it—or he—stands completed! It is an actual thing, and is now on the way to Washington with him. He is tramping it to the capital to exhibit it—and himself. And he hopes to make a fortune for himself, as well as to confer a great benefit upon mankind.

This living telephone is a bulky fellow. He wears under his clothes, almost next to his body, a great many coils of insulated wire. This is carried around the waist many times like a lady's ribbon, and, being slender, it does not hurt him or cause him any inconvenience. It looks peculiar, but does not hurt.

In one hip pocket there is a bulky package. It is not heavy, but its importance makes it obtrusive. It sticks out with a lump that can not be disguised. The man carries his hand on it, the better to protect it. It is a dry battery, and is related to the wire in an important way.

Now comes the important part of the telephone. Thus far all has been concealed. The first thing the observer notices is a large receiver, similar to the one used upon a telephone. This is attached to the left ear of the man. It is his method for hearing. It is a powerful sound receiver. Attached to it is a wire that can be connected with the teeth, in case the mute can not hear with the receiver.

He has found by many experiments that the dulled nerves of the ears are quickened by these powerful electric appliances and that he does hear. It is a vague, uncertain hearing, but a great deal better than none at all. It is more a vibration than a hearing. He gets a murmuring of sounds, not as clear as given by the saltpetre solution, in which hands can be dipped, but clear enough for every-day use and more convenient than the basin of fluid now so commonly usesd by deaf mutes to get sound vibration.

The funniest part of the apparatus is found in the transmitter and receiver that hangs at the man's side. There is a hook upon which the transmitter is suspended and a receiver for the sound. Both of them are for the uses of the public.

A gentleman meeting this walking man has set out for Washington—and the patent office. He is convinced that all who take the trouble to examine his walking telephone will admire it, and that means money enough for all the patents required.

He has raised himself from a poor, worthless fellow to an inventor of at least many ambitions, and he may yet be the Edison of sound for the deaf.

J. C. CHESTER, OF GLENDIVE, MONTANA, WHO IS WALKING TO WASHINGTON TO PATENT HIMSELF AS A TELEPHONE.

MOVING HADES.

A Story Told by a California Member of Congress.

Mr. Johnson, of California, began a speech in Congress the other day with the following story:

"It is related that there were two men in the wilds of North Carolina who had grown up to manhood there, never had been away from home, knew nothing of the riches of other countries or of civilization. Impelled by a desire to increase their knowledge, it is stated that they took their blankets and started off to find new fields. They walked down the mountains and over the plains, and finally came to two parallel lines of iron as they thought, nailed upon wood, of which they knew nothing and could imagine nothing. They walked along for a time, and it became evening, and they were sleepy. They walked to the bank adjacent, spread their blankets, and went to sleep. Shortly there came along an express train, somewhat behind time, and as it came rumbling and roaring and thundering down the grade it awakened one of these men, and as he looked up he saw the headlight of the locomotive making everything light and turning night into day, and as it passed him, with its clattering noise, seeming powerful enough to wake the dead, and when he saw the fireman, grimy and enlarged by the reflection, with the furnace door wide open, the sparks flying, the coals dropping, the fire roaring, and heard the whistle's shrill shriek, he grasped the man with whom he had walked, and said: 'S'm the devil is moving hell, and here is the first load!'"

Punctured.

Tommy had been suffering from a lame back for a day or two and his mother bought a porous plaster for the same and prepared to adjust it. As the eyes of little Mabel fell upon the punctured square she exclaimed: "Oh, mamma! What are all the holes for?"

"I know," interjected Tommy; "they're for lettin' the pain out."—Richmond Dispatch.

A Money Maker.

Harry—I made five cents, papa.

Brown—That's right, my boy. I like to see traits of industry in the young. How did you make it?

Harry—That boy next door bet me a nickel I couldn't take my new watch to pieces.

In South America.

First Patriot—"I thought the revolution was to begin to-day?"

Second Patriot—"It has been postponed on account of the weather."—New York World.

SHE READ IT IN HIS HAND.

But Fate Was Kinder to Him Than to the Fair Palmist.

"So the bazaar is over at last," said the girl in the green and blue gown, "and hadn't we a good time, too?"

"Indeed, we had," said the girl in the empire jacket; "by the way, it was for the poor, wasn't it?"

"M—yes, yes, of course it was. I wish I had thought to ask how much money we made. People keep teasing me to know."

"I made over $100 in the palmistry tent," said the girl in the empire jacket.

"Did you, really? How nice. And do tell me, how did your plan with regard to Robert turn out?"

"Eh, plan? What plan? I don't remember any."

"You were going to tell his fortune, you know," hinted the girl in the blue and greengown, and I do so want to know the result."

"Oh, do you?" said the girl in the empire jacket; well, he gave me $5 for it. Weren't people generous? Lots of men gave—"

"Yes, dear, I know; but you said that you were sure you could give Robert a hint that he might speak. You said that he had seemed sorts of discouraged of late, and had almost avoided you. You semeed to think that Alberta had been telling him things about you—"

"Did I? I had quite forgotten. By the way, Mr. Upperton was quite nice to you during the bazaar."

"Yes; he wants to get something out of pappa, I believe. But you told Robert's fortune, I know; did you tell him, as you intended, that he wished to ask a girl some question, but hesitated lest the answer might be no?"

"Ye-es," admitted the girl in the empire jacket; "but I don't believe that was Mr. Upperton's reason for—"

"I know it, dear. Then, I suppose you told him that he need not fear the answer, and that he was to be married before he was twenty-six?"

"Ye-es," said the girl in the empire jacket, "of course, I was only joking when I told you all that."

"Of course," said the girl in the blue and green gown, "and I will never tell a soul how it came about. I suppose that he proposed at once, eh?"

"I believe he did, but—"

"Do tell me just how he did, there's a dear girl! I—"

"I really don't know."

"Too nervous. Of course—I might have thought of that. By the way, how did it happen that he took Alberta home that evening?"

"It was perfectly natural, I am sure, when he—"

"Was just engaged to you? Well, I suppose I am behind the times, but I should not like the man who was engaged to me—"

"I never said he was engaged to me. I only told his fortune, and—"

"My goodness, gracious! You don't mean to say that he took courage to ask Alberta to marry him, when—"

"Of course, I do," snapped the girl in the empire jacket; "how many times must I tell you a thing before you understand it?"—Chicago Times-Herald.

A Cure.

Jones—"Sillibub has a medicine which he declares is a sure cure for heart disease."

Smith—"Did it cure him?"

Jones—"Yes; it gave him such a frightful attack of indigestion that he forgot all about his heart."—Harper's Bazar.

Tested.

Father—"Wait a year, my son, and you may feel very different."

Son (confidently)—"I've tested my love for Miss Higgins thoroughly and I know it cannot change. I've played golf with her and I still want her for my wife."—Household Words.

Probably.

"I've noticed an Indian hanging around the entrance for several days," said the theatrical manager. "Do you know who he is?"

"I strongly suspect he is a scalper," replied the ticket agent.—Philadelphia North American.

Our Serial Story.

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"The Clock Struck One"

By FERGUS HUME,

Author of "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab," "The Lone Inn," "The Expedition of Captain Flick," "The Mystery of Landy Court, etc.

CHAPTER VII.—A NINE DAYS' SCANDAL.

And this was the end of Julian Edermont's high spirits. For twenty years he had dreaded and had guarded himself against a violent death; but the moment that the fear had been removed the end came. There was something ironical in the way in which Fate had lulled his suspicions only to smite the surer. One day he had been rejoicing in the thought that the reign of terror was over; the next, he lay dead under his own roof-tree. And none knew who had slain him.

They found the body in the study, lying near the desk, which itself was broken open and terribly damaged. As Meg, the cook, stated, his head was smashed like a pumpkin; and near at hand lay the weapon with which the deed had been done—a Zulu knobkerrie, which had been torn from the decorative weapons of the wall. Dora was an exceptionally brave woman, cool in danger and collected in trouble; but even she felt qualmish to see that revered head all beaten, all spashed with gore. The place was like a shambles. Amid the blood lay a pistol, near to the hand of the dead man; and many papers were scattered about it, tossed in confusion from the bureau. Mr. Edermont had been nothing more to Dora than her legal guardian. He had been a selfish, cowardly creature, who had done nothing to win her love; yet as Dora looked at the body lying there, red with blood, battered and beaten and bruised, she felt at once sorry and angered. The first, that so harmless—so far as she knew—a creature had been so cruelly done to death; the second, that his assassin had escaped. However, as the deed was done, and the man was dead, no time was to be lost in raising the alarm. It was just possible that the murderer might be secured if prompt measures were taken. Dora knew now that the cry she had heard in the night had been no fancy, dreaming, but a terrible reality, and the striking of the clock immediately afterwrads enabled her to fix the exact time when the crime had been committed. However, she was wise enough to say nothing on the point until called upon to do so; but raising, with the aid of Meg, the dead body on to the sofa, she sent the woman across the road to summon Joad. Hardly had she issued the order when the voice of that very person in surprised tones was heard in the drawing-room off the stduy.

Considerably astonished at his early arrival—for it was not yet 8 o'clock—Dora ran into the next room. At the door she paused in sheer amazement. The glass door at the side of the apartment had no shutters up, and was wide opened while Joad was looking through it, apparently as much taken aback by her appearance as she was by his.

"What is it? What is it?" he demanded hastily. "This door ajar—the postern gate open—you here—"

"The postern gate open?" cried Dora suddenly. "The assassin must have escaped that way."

"Assassin! What do you mean?" stammered the new comer, turning pale with fright.

"Come in at once, Mr. Joad, and I will show you. The sight requires no explanation."

Still amazed, Joad heaved his fat body through the door and followed Dora into the room of death. When he saw what had taken place—the blood on the floor, the dead body on the sofa—his jaw dropped, his skin turned the color of a dirty yellow, and he stared dumbfounded at the sight. So long did he remain in his semi-trance that Dora was obliged to shake him by the elbow to bespeak his attention.

"You see Mr. Edermont has been murdered. Meg found him like that when she came to clean up the study."

"Aye, I did for sure!" cried Meg, her coarse face blanched with dread. "Master did not lock kitchen last night, and I found doors all wide. I came here with broom and dust-pan, and there I saw he with poor head bashed to jelly."

Joad approached the sofa, and examined the body, then reverently spread his handkerchief over the disfigured face. "My poor friend!" he muttered with emotion—"and you thought that you were safe!"

"Does that mean you know who killed him?" asked Dora, making a step forward.

"No, I do not know who killed him. Julian was always afraid that he would be murdered by a certain person; but who that person is, or why he should desire Julian's death, I know no more than you do."

Dora only believed half of this statement. From what she had seen it would appear that Joad had been completely in the confidence of the dead man, and his denial seemed to be unnecessary. However, she made no comment on the speech, but with sudden suspicion asked Joad how it was he had come to the Red House before his usual time. He guessed what was in her mind, and laughed slily.

"If you think I know anything of this terrible deed, you are wrong," said he slowly; "it is not likely I should kill the only friend I have in the world, and reduce myself to beggary."

"Good heavens, Mr. Joad! I never accused you of such a thing!" cried Dora indignantly.

"Nevertheless, you thought it, Miss Carew," he replied smoothly, "and you deemed that I had come thus early to look at my handiwork. You are wrong; it's my custom to take a short walk to get an appetite for breakfast. In crossing the fields, I saw to my amazement that the postern door was open. Knowing that Julian was particular to keep it locked, I went to see what was the matter. I came up to the house, and saw the side door was open also. In my surprise I uttered an ejaculation, and you appeared. You know the rest."

Dora did know the rest, but she did not know who had killed her guardian. However, now that a man was on the spot, she wished him to take the management of the matter into his own hands. But Joad declined to saddle himself with any such responsibility. He said that Dora was a new woman, who thought that the weaker sex was the stronger of the two. This being the case, Mr. Joad suggested that she should prove her boast by assuming the position of the necessary male. Dora was annoyed at his niggling arguments, and disgusted at his laziness; but, undeeming the matter worth discussing, she took all authority into her own hands.

They proved to be very capable hands. She sent a man to Canterbury for the police, and put them in charge of the body and the house. To the inspector she related all she knew, and Meg followed suit. As for Joad, he interviewed the authorities on his own account, and gave the same unvarnished statement as he had given to the two women. Mr. Inspector heard all that was to be heard, saw all that was to be seen; and after leaving a couple of policemen in charge, he returned to Canterbury to rack his brains as to the whereabouts of the assassin. He also detailed a doctor to examine the body; and with this doctor came Allen.

The young man appeared haggard and ill. His face was pale, his eyes were wild, and he looked as though he had been sitting up for several nights in succession. When he saw Dora, he made no effort to embrace her, but stood before her with downcast eyes, like a defected criminal. The girl was profoundly astonished at this conduct. Ordinarily Scott was blithe and lighthearted, with a smile and a word for everybody. Now he looked dejected and worried, and had not a word to say, even to the girl to whom he was betrothed. After a time Dora, finding him so unsatisfactory, took him to her own dining-room, and sat him in a chair. Then she spoke bluntly, and with some anger, which was surely natural.

"I am so glad to see you, Allen," she said abruptly, "as I wish to have an explanation of your singular conduct."

"I have none to give you," he said, flushing.

"Indeed! Then why did you come over to-day?"

"I heard of this murder, for one thing," said Allen slowly; "and for another, I wish to put an end to our engagement."

Dora started. She remembered the prophecy of Mrs. Tice and of the dead man. It had come true sooner than she expected, and in a fashion she did not anticipate. Many things might have arisen to prevent their marriage, but if she and Allen were true to one another, she hoped to overleap all obstacles. But here was the man himself—the man who had vowed a thousand times that he could not live without her—and he proposed to part. She could hardly believe her ears; and with outraged pride, tears sprang to her eyes.

"I thought you loved me, Allen!" said she; then flung herself on the sofa and sobbed as though her heart would break.

Dr. Scott rose suddenly, and stood looking down at her, his face working with passion. He would fain have taken her in his arms; he would have assured her of his love and undying fidelity. But between him and Dora, a shadow was standing—the shadow of a dead man.

"I do love you, Dora," said Allen, as soon as he could command his voice; "I shall always love you; but I can never make you my wife."

"But why? What is your reason?"

"I dare not tell you my reason; but you shall learn this much: Mr. Edermont told me something which parts us for ever."

"What did he tell you?"

"I dare not tell you."

Dora rose slowly, and looked steadily into his face. His eyes dropped before hers, and he would have turned away, but she compelled him to face her.

"Allen, you know who killed Mr. Edermont."

"No, no! As God is in Heaven I do not!" he said vehemently. "I have my suspicions, but they count as nothing. Don't ask me anything, Dora, for I can tell you nothing."

"At least tell me why you wish our engagement ended," said she, very pale.

"I cannot," he groaned, and sank into a chair.

"Then listen to me, Allen," she said in a firm voice. "Until you tell me the reason of this conduct I refuse to release you from the engagement. I love you; you say that you love me; so there is no reason why we should part. If you will not speak, others will; and I shall devote myself to finding out the truth. When I do find it," she added slowly, "then we may part; until then" —her voice rose—"you are my affianced husband!"

Allen rose from his chair and walked slowly towards the window, where he stood looking out at the green lawn, the brilliant sunshine. In his then mood of self-torture and sorrow, the brightness of the day seemed a cruel contrast to his own dark thoughts. His life was over, his joys were at an end; a deadly trouble, greater than he could bear, had come upon him. Yet the flowers bloomed, the birds sang, the sunlight bathed stretches of green grass and clumps of stately trees in its golden rays, as in mockery of his puny grief and trivial ruin. The contrast struck him as so ironical that he burst into bitter laughter; but the mirth thus wrung from his breaking heart ended in a sigh of regret.

"Why do you laugh, Allen?" asked Dora, scared by this cruel merriment. "Why do you not answer?"

"I laugh because of the contrast between the joy of nature and our own sorrows," he replied, turning his pale face towards her, "and I did not reply because I was thinking."

"You heard what I said?"

He took her hands within his own, and looked at her anguished face with a great love in his eyes. "I heard you, and I agree," said he softly. "God bless you for a good woman, Dora, for you have behaved nobly. Many a woman would have cast me off in scorn for my refusal to speak. But you are content to wait in hope. Alas, my darling!" he cried, with a burst of sorrow; "there is no hope; there never can be hope. You and I are parted as surely as though the one were following the other to the graveyard."

"But, Allen, we have committed no sin. Why should we part?"

"Because of the sins of others. Our trouble comes from the past, Dora, and it was that dead man who revealed it to me. Did I tell you what he said, you would agree with me that the only thing left to us is to kiss and part. But I dare not tell you; in mercy to yourself I spare you the burden of the secret which has made my life so bitter."

"I know that you act in all kindness, Allen, but you are wrong. It would be better to tell me all and let me share your troubles. I am strong; I can bear anything."

"Not this, not this," replied Allen releasing her hands and going to the door; "it would wreck your life, your happiness, as it has wrecked mine."

"Happiness!" she said in a tone of despair; "I have done with that."

"I hope not. Oh, my dear, I trust not. Time may bring you the content that I cannot give you. I accept your noble offer, Dora. Let us still continue our engagement, although we must rarely meet. But if you are wise, you will not seek to know the secret. It will bring you no good, only evil. For your own sake I keep silent. I can do no more; I can do no less."

He paused at the door, looking at her sadly. She stood in the center of the room, a quiet and sorrowful figure in her black dress. Allen returned, and kissed her twice on the forehead; then he left her under the same roof as the dead man, and passed out of her life—as he thought—for ever.

CHAPTER VIII.—THE WILL OF JULIAN EDERMONT.

After that interview Allen came no more to the Red House. He was aware that his behavior appeared shameful; for no other word was applicable to the conduct of a man who forsook a girl to whom he had been engaged a year, and refused to disclose the reason of such desertion. Yet he could act in no other way, for the bar to the marriage, as revealed by Edermont, was so insuperable and terrible that Allen could not bring himself to enlighten Dora on the subject. If things looked black against him, he would have to put up with the situation as he best could. But to justify his conduct by telling the truth—he could not do so. In mercy to herself he spared her that revelation.

But if Allen remained absent, others did not. When the fact of the murder became known, quite a stream of morbid people set forth to view the scene of the crime. Thanks to the presence of the police, and the stubborn fact of the high wall, these folk were unable to push themselves into the house, but they gathered in crowds on the road, staring and staring, as though they hoped to see through the bricks and mortar, and behold the dead body within. Much speculation was rife as to the cause of the crime, but the generally accepted opinion was that Edermont had been murdered by a burglar or burglars. Indeed, Inspecter Jedd inclined to this opinion himself.

This official was a fussy, pompous man, with an immense idea of his own importance; now that an opportunity occurred of displaying that importance, he made the most of it. What with examining the grounds, the house, the postern gate; what with questioning the living inmates and the doctor who had examined the body, he was as active as a squirrel, and about as useful. In his sublime self-conceit, he could not see an inch beyond his nose, and accepted the first idea that came into his head. The bureau was smashed, the drawers pulled out and emptied of their contents. On these grounds Inspecter Jedd concluded that the death was due to the wrath of an interrupted housebreaker.

"Tramp, you see," he said in his jerky way to admiring subordinates. "Mr. Edermont—rich house, full of treasures and loose cash—mistaken whim, very; but tramp, hearing such tales in beer-shops, believes them. He climbs over the wall; Mr. Edermont has omitted to lock side door. Tramp enters easily—seer bureau—thinks money there. Smashes desk with the bludgeon taken from the wall"—so the inspector denominated the "knobkerrie"—"Mr. Edermont hears noise—comes in—tramp startled—turns at bay—kills Mr. Edermont. Takes what he can—steals keys from dead man and unlocks postern gate—gets away. There you are! What could be simpler?"

None of Inspector Jedd's underlings disputed the theory of their chief, for the simple reason that they believed in it, as they would have believed in any other he chose to put forward. Joad sneered when this explanation was repeated in his hearing; but, on the plea that he knew nothing about such matters, he made no comment upon it. Dora also disagreed with Jedd, but, being a judicious young woman, she said nothing. She herself believed that the death was due to revenge; but as yet she was too uncertain of her ground, too ignorant of Mr. Edermont's past life, to venture an opinion. The reading of the dead man's will proved that her insight into the matter was keener than Jedd's.

But before the reading of the will came the holding of the inquest. Jedd gathered together all the obtainable evidence, called all the available witnesses, with the result that nothing was discovered likely to lead to the assassin's detection. The inquest was held in the dining-room of the Red House, and everybody who could obtain admittance was present; but when Dora looked round the crowded room she noted that three people whom she expected to see were absent. These were Allen Scott, because he was her lover and should have been at hand to support her in this trial; Mr. Pallant, as he had evidently some knowledge of Edermont's past life, and might be curious concerning his violent death; and Lady Burville, because the sight of her in church had been, as Dora truly believed, the genesis of all these woes. But none of the three put in an appearance, and their absence gave Dora food for reflection.

The first witness called was Meg Gance, the cook, who deposed she was usually locked up in her kitchen, with bedroom attached, by the deceased. On the night of the second of August he had omitted to lock her up as usual—why, she did not know. It was her custom to rise at seven and wait till Mr. Edermont came to let her into the main portion of the house, so that she could go about her work. She was general servant as well as cook. On the morning of the third, she rose as usual but Mr. Edermont never came. To her surprise, she found the door leading to the front of the house was unlocked. She passed through with broom and dust-pan to seek the study, which she usually cleaned the first thing in the morning. There she saw Mr. Edermont lying dead near the desk, with his head smashed. The bureau was smashed also, the drawers were pulled out and the contents untidily tumbled on the floor. Near the dead body lay a pistol and a stick (the knobkerrie) which had been taken from the wall. At once she called Miss Carew. The witness stated that she had heard no noise during the night. She had noticed no tramps or suspicious characters looking round the house of late.

The second witness was Dora Carew, who stated that she had retired as usual on the previous night at half-past nine, leaving Mr. Edermont to look up. Her guardian usually locked the door which closed the passage on the first floor leading to her bedroom. On this night he did not do so, although she was not aware of the fact until summoned by Meg the next morning. During the night she was awakened by a cry—as it seemed to her, an appeal for mercy. She listened, but could hear nothing further, and thinking she had been dreaming, she had lain down and gone to sleep again. When she awoke in the morning, she was called by Meg to see the dead body. She was aware that Mr. Edermont considered himself a threatened man, but she had no knowledge of the person or persons whom he feared. In reply to a question this witness stated that she heard the cry immediately before the clock in the hall struck "one." She believed that the murder had been committed at that time.

The third witness was Lambert Joad, who gave his evidence as follows: He was accustomed to leave the Red House at 9 o'clock every night for his cottage, which was on the other side of the road. On the night of the murder he left as usual, and heard the gate locked behind him. He went to his cottage and took his supper and read. Later on he was joined by Mr. Pride, a tutor in a local private school, who was, like himself, a classical scholar. Pride talked with him till after 2 o'clock in the morning, when he went away. The witness was up at 7 to take a walk before breakfast, as was his custom. In crossing the fields he noticed that the postern door was open. Astonished at this and knowing that Mr. Edermont was particular about keeping the door closed, he went across to see what was the matter. On entering through the postern gate he went to the house. To gain the front door, he had to follow the path between laurel hedges which passed by the glass door of the disused drawing-room, off the study. He saw that this door had no shutters up on the glass, as was customary, and was standing wide open. He uttered an exclamation of surprise, which brought Miss Carew into the drawing-room. She called him in, and he saw the dead body and the smashed desk. He was not aware that Mr. Edermont had enemies. The witness believed that Edermont's fancy of being threatened with a violent death was monomania. He recognized the revolver as the property of the deceased.

The fourth witness was Dr. Chambers, of Canterbury, who deposed that he had been summoned by Inspector Jedd to examine the body of the deceased. The head was smashed in by a violent blow on the left temple, and death must have been instantaneous. After giving some technical evidence relative to the injuries inflicted, this witness concluded by stating that, from the condition of the body, he was satisfied the crime had been committed between 12 and 1 o'clock in the morning. This assertion bore out the statement of Miss Carew, that she had heard the hall clock strike one shortly after the cry for mercy had awakened her.

The fifth and last witness was Inspector Jedd. He deposed to the state of the body, the state of the bureau, and the finding of knobkerrie and pistol. Evidently the criminal had entered the house through the side door on the drawing-room, which was wide open, and had retreated the same way. No clue had been obtained likely to lead to the detection of the assassin. The postern gate, usually kept locked, had been found open on the morning after the crime. Several tramps had been arrested on suspicion, but one and all had explained their movements on the night of the second. None of the deceased knew what was in the bureau, therefore witness was unable to say if anything was missing.

These five witnesses having given their evidence, the coroner summed up, after which the jury brought in a verdict that Julian Edermont had been murdered by some person or persons unknown. It was the only conclusion to which they could come in the face of such scanty facts as had been placed before them; and all present departed with the unsatisfactory feeling that the death of Mr. Edermont was a mystery, and what is more was likely to remain a mystery. And so a very trying and exciting day came to a conclusion.

Mr. Edermont was duly buried in Chillum churchyard and again Dora noticed that Allen was not present at the funeral. When she returned to the house, Mr. Carver, the long, lean lawyer from Canterbury, produced the will of the dead man, and read it to herself and Joad. As Mr. Edermont had no relations, these two were the only people likely to be interested in the disposition of his property. The will was a peculiar one, and reflected the lifelong fear of Edermont. Since he had been relieved of that fear by the visit of Mr. Pallant, he had not troubled to execute another testament; so the document read by Mr. Carver showed how vivid had been his presentiment of meeting with a violent end. The result had justified his fears.

The property included the Red House and its surrounding acres, the pictures and silver, and also the rental of three farms, amounting to two hundred a year. All this—house, pictures, silver and income—was left to Dora, on condition that she remained at the Red House and permitted Lambert Joad to continue his life there on the same footing as during the life of the deceased. The rest of the property, consisting of stocks and shares and various investments, amounted in all to some fifty thousand pounds. And now came the surprising part of the will. This large sum of money was left unconditionally to such person or persons as should discover and punish the assassin of the testator. "For years," said the maker of the will, "I have been threatened with violent death by a certain enemy. Sooner or later, in spite of all my precautions, he will succeed in carrying out his wicked purpose. In that event I am content to reward the person who punishes him, or whomsoever he employs, with the sum of fifty thousand pounds. The story of my life, which set forth how I incurred the wrath of this enemy, will be found in my bureau, sealed with my seal. Let my ward, Dora Carew, read the document, and discover the assassin so that she can at once revenge my death and inherit my money. But in any case she is provided for, as is Lambert Joad; and the bulk of my estate must go to him or her who punishes my enemy." Then followed the usual clauses ending the will, the signatures of the testator and of two witnesses.

When Carver had finished there was a dead silence, which was broken by the lawyer himself. "It is a strange will," said he, taking off his spectacles, "and hardly worded in a legal manner. But it holds good nevertheless, so I can only recommend you, Miss Carew, or you, Mr. Joad, to gain fifty thousand pounds if you can."

"Will that sum actually be paid over to the discoverer of the assassin?" cried Joad, with sparkling eyes.

"My dear sir," said Carver, with a solemn smile on his lean face, "the man or woman who discovers the murderer of my late client will receive"—he smacked his lips—"fifty thousand pounds."

TO BE CONTINUED.

"COLOR BLIND."
—Copyrighted.

How She Did It.

First Woman Art Student—"Yes, Lotty has made a name for herself in spite of her lack of talent."

Second Woman Art Student—"How did she manage it?"

First Woman Art Student—"She has married Dauber, the celebrated animal painter."—Harper's Bazar.

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or of firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Year of Our Lord.

"In the Question Bureau of Weekly Blade of January 14, in reply headed 'No odd year,' you state from January 1, A. D. 1, to December 31, A. D. 100, is just one century. Right. But you seem to ignore the fact that January 1, A. D. 1, was just one year from the time Christ was born; consequently December 31, 12 p. m., A. D. 99, was just one century. Then we date January 1, 100, and then we say the second century begins. Remember, we always date time as it really is fully past."—W. I. E., Cowlesville, N. Y.

How on earth did you imbibe the delusion that "January 1, A. D. 1, was just one year from the time Christ was born?" It was not. It was just the time he was born. That is, it is assumed to be the day of his birth, though it was not exactly the date. There is no possible way to figure out that December 31, A. D. 99, "completed one century." It takes 100 years to make a century, not 99 years. January 1, A. D. 1, is the date of beginning the count, and all time previous to that is ignored. The Blade's statement was quite correct, as you will see if you will take the trouble to examine the matter carefully. Remember, we count from January 1, A. D. 1, and not from any date previous to that. And you are right in saying we "count time as it is really fully past," but we don't count time before that date at which our reckoning commences.

Annular Ellipses.

"The almanacs tell us there will be two annular eclipses of the sun this year. Will you please tell what is meant by an annular eclipse?"—J. J. M., Wahoo, Neb.

An eclipse of the sun is caused by the moon coming between us and the sun, covering the latter, and thus obscuring his light. When the sun is at his greatest distance from the earth, and the moon at her least distance from the earth, her disc covers the sun entirely, and we have a total eclipse. When the sun is nearer to us, and the moon further away, her disc is not large enough to cover the sun's disc entirely. There is a ring of light visible entirely around the moon. This is called an "annular" eclipse, from the Latin word "annulus," which means "a ring."

The first of these eclipses is on February 1, the other on July 29.

Moon In Virgo.

"In what days or months is the moon in Virgo, and how long does it last?"—W. E. P., West Grafton, W. Va.

There are twelve signs of the zodiac, making a complete circle of the heavens. The moon travels in her orbit around the earth once every 29 days 12 hours 44 minutes and a fraction. Consequently, she passes through the twelve signs of the zodiac in the same time. Consequently, the moon is in each sign a little over two days, and is in Virgo once a month, or, more correctly, thirteen times a year. This month—January, 1897—she entered Virgo on the 25th; in February she will enter it on the 20th, and so on. Any almanac will tell you, in the column headed "Moon's signs," where she is each day.

A Delegate Vacancy.

"In case a vacancy occurs in our Oklahoma, representation in Congress, how shall the delegate, to fill the vacancy, be chosen—by appointment or election? There appears to be a difference of opinion as to what construction to place on clause 4, section 3, article 1, of the constitution of the United States."—D. H., Osborne, Okla.

You evidently refer to article 1, section 2, clause 4 of the constitution, which says: "When vacancies happen in the representation from any state, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancy." The meaning is that the governor of the state shall order an election for a Representative to fill the vacancy.

But Oklahoma is not a state, and has no Representative. She has a delegate in the House, without right to vote. The constitution does not provide that territories shall have delegates, so the clause quoted above does not apply to any territory.

The authority to be conferred by a delegate is given by law of Congress, not by the constitution. We have not the law at hand, but suppose it provides for filling a vacancy, either by appointment of the governor of the territory, or by election, but we cannot say which. The point we make is, that the constitution says nothing about it.

A Political Badge.

"I am in possession of a badge, representing a chair, which evidently was used as a campaign badge at some time, and as there is no date on it, I am at a loss to know when it was used. It is a piece of tin or copper, in the shape of a chair, upholstered, and has the following words inscribed thereon, 'Presidential chair. Who shall occupy it?' I found this badge and have been unable to find any one who knew when they were used."—J. A. W., Chesnut, Ill.

We have no idea of the date of this badge, as we never saw one like it. If any reader can throw any light on its history, we will be glad to publish the facts.

United States Mint Marks.

"How many mints are there in the United States that coin certain coins and mark them with a small letter or letters? Also designate where can the letter, or letters, be found?"—L. J., Brown, Iowa.

The main mint of the United States is located in Philadelphia, and the coins made there have no mint-mark. The mint-mark is always on the reverse side of the coin, near the bottom. On a quarter-dollar, for instance, it is just to the left of the eagle.

A coin which shows in that place a small O, was minted in New Orleans; if an F, it was minted in San Francisco; if C C, at Carson City. If no mint-mark is given, it was minted at Philadelphia.

Redeeming Greenbacks.

"Are the greenbacks redeemable? If a person take a greenback to the treasury and demand gold for it, would the government be compelled to pay in gold?"—G. C. C., Barnesburg, O.

Certainly the greenbacks are redeemable. A greenback is a promise to pay money; and what is a promise to pay worth if it is not redeemable—if it is not meant to pay the obligation?

If you take greenbacks to the sub-treasury in New York, and demand gold for them, it will be promptly paid out to you. The government, ever since the greenbacks were issued, has considered them to be redeemable in gold, and ever since the resumption of specie payments has redeemed them in gold on demand.

Unprofitable Silver Mines.

"Do you endorse the statement concerning the silver mines in Utah which is made in the 'Scientific Facts' column in the Weekly Blade of January 27. Do you vouch for the truthfulness of each scientific statement made in this column from time to time by The Blade?"—W. J. D., Austin, Tex.

The paragraph referred to mentioned five silver mines in Utah which, during the year ending June 10, 1896, showed a loss; that is, the amount of silver obtained did not pay for the cost of mining. The statement was made in it that it was from the Salt Lake Tribune, and we certainly would not have printed it unless we had believed it true. The same may be said of all scientific facts stated in The Blade.

It is not an uncommon thing for a silver or a gold mine to show such a condition of things. The silver or gold-bearing rock is never of uniform thickness or richness. Instances are frequent where the pay rock thinned out, so that it did not pay the cost of getting it out; and often, if work is kept up, the vein thickens again, and the mine becomes very profitable.

Christmas Eve.

"As regards Christmas eve, would say, according to Bible instruction and ancient custom, Christmas begins December 24 at evening. See Leviticus xxiii: 32."—H. G., Radnor, Ind.

We can not imagine why you quote Leviticus in connection with the observance of Christmas. The twenty-third chapter of Leviticus, from the twenty-sixth to the thirty-second verses, refers entirely to the Jewish day of atonement, to be celebrated on the tenth day of the seventh month, on which days the Jews were to make atonement for their sins. Describing this day, the thirty second verse says: "It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls; in the ninth day of the month even, from even until even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath."

This refers exclusively to the day of atonement, which the Jews celebrate to this day, under the name "Yom Kippur." Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ, and has nothing to do with the old Jewish observance.

Pingree's Two Offices.

"Can Pingree hold the office of mayor of Detroit and governor of Michigan at the same time, until the expiration of his term, or does he have to resign one or the other?"—S. W. T., Maumee, O.

Well, Mr. Pingree is doing it. He is discharging the duties of governor of Michigan and of mayor of Detroit and nobody has attempted to stop him. There seems to be no provision of the laws of Michigan to keep a man from holding those two offices.

That Bond Deal.

"Did not Grover Cleveland violate the constitution of the United States when he made that $262,000,000 bond deal?"—J. W. B., Laramie, Tex.

There was but one of the issues of bonds that were sold by private contract, instead of being bid for. It was for $100,000,000. The $262,000,000 is the total of all four issues made by the Cleveland administration.

No, President Cleveland did not "violate the constitution." What particular article or clause do you imagine to cover the sale of bonds? The constitution gives Congress the power "to borrow money on the credit of the United States." Congress does this by the passage of a law empowering the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bonds. The act of 1875 is still in force, and it gives the Secretary of the Treasury authority to issue and sell bonds to maintain the gold reserve. So there was no law violated, much less the constitution.

The criticism of President Cleveland's making a bargain for the sale of the entire block of bonds to a syndicate was not that he had no authority to do so, for he had. That is, bonds may be sold in any way that is deemed best. The criticism was, that he sold them too cheap—that had bids been called for, the bonds would have realized several millions more to the government.

Public Documents.

"Will you please give me a list of the free books and pamphlets to be had for the asking of the various departments?"—L. S. C., Sheldon, O.

No, we can not publish a list. It would take a great deal of trouble to compile such a list, for it is different each session of Congress. The best plan for you to pursue is to write to your Representative in Congress, and ask him to send you such public documents as cover subjects in which you are particularly interested, giving him an idea of what those subjects are. He will be glad to do so.

The Lord's Day.

"By whom and when was the keeping of the Lord's Day changed from Saturday to Sunday?"—B. F. S., Gallin, Wash.

The "Lord's Day" never was observed on Saturday, as your question seems to imply. Sunday was called the Lord's day because His resurrection took place on a Sunday morning, and of course was not observed until after that event. Consequently it could not have been "changed" from Saturday, for it was never observed on Saturday.

Uncle Sam.

"Please inform me through The Blade how the present cartoon of Uncle Sam originated, when, and by whom?"—S. C. M., North Baltimore, O.

Nobody knows who was the first to represent "Uncle Sam" as a typical Yankee, tall and lean, with hair down over his collar, chin whiskers, a bell-crowned hat, straps to his trousers, etc. Probably this representation of him originated somewhere between 1820 and 1835, when well-dressed gentlemen wore that style of beaver hat, dress coats, and tight-fitting trousers with straps. The placing of the stars and stripes in his costume did not occur to any one until the period of the civil war. As time goes on, the typical Uncle Sam slowly changes, according to the vagaries of different successive artists.

Dust in Snow.

"Please let me know where the fine dust came from which fell on the snow February 19, 1896, and how far it extended East and West? Inclosed find a sample I collected. You see no grit in it."—Subscriber, Marengo, Ill.

Accompanying the above was a sample of very fine, dark dust. A microscopic examination of this dust reveals that it is the dust of fertile soil, evidently swept up from the surface of farming land. The absence of grit merely means that sand is heavier than soil, and was not taken up by the wind because of its weight. The dust was swept up by the wind, carried into the upper regions of the atmosphere, from whence it was carried to the earth by the snow. We have no idea how wide an area was covered by this fall of dust. If any reader knows, we shall be glad to publish.

Vertical Writing.

"Please explain the vertical system of writing. Has it any advantages over present angular system? Where can I obtain specimens of the system?"—A. P. R., Baxter, Ark.

Vertical penmanship makes the letters vertical instead of leaning to the right. It is plainer than the present system; the pupils take as much easier position, sitting squarely facing the desk when writing; it is easier learned and omits all the miserable flourishes and curves which are rapidly driving all the editors of the country into their graves from endeavoring to decipher them. Any bookseller will order a writing-book with copies on the vertical system for you for 15 cents.

The Trocha.

"Please explain the meaning of the trocha in regard to Cuban affairs."—J. C. B., Butler, Ind., and J. H. P., Elwood, Ind.

The word "trocha" is Spanish for what a farmer's boy would call a "short cut"—that is, a by-path across woods, or fields, shorter than to follow the main road. The "trocha" crosses the island of Cuba at its narrowest point. It is a series of armed posts, block-houses, etc., at short intervals, with ditches and other obstructions from one to the next. The posts, etc., are garrisoned by Spanish troops, and the purpose is to keep the Cubans from crossing into the province of which Havana is the principal city.

A Wheel Mule.

"In a history of the Mexican war it says Santa Anna escaped by the swiftness of his wheel-mule, leaving behind him his wooden leg. Now, does it mean by this wheel-mule?"—G. W. C., Lanesville, Ill.

Santa Anna travelled in a carriage drawn by four mules. In a four-horse (or mule) team the two next the carriage are called the wheel-horses (or wheel-mules) because they are next to the wheels of the vehicle; the other two are called the "leaders," or lead-horses. Santa Anna, being closely pressed, got out of the carriage, mounted a wheel-mule, and made his escape on mule-back.

Half Votes.

"In reading an account of the nomination of Lincoln in 1860, I learn that on a certain ballot he received 231½ votes. Will you be kind enough to explain the meaning of a half vote? How it is given, or what constitutes a half vote?"—H. S., Monongahela, Pa.

There are two ways in which half votes can be cast in a political convention. Suppose, in that convention, a state had 21 votes, and the delegation decided, for some reason, to cast half for Lincoln and half for Seward, his leading competitor. That would be 10½ votes each. Such a course is not uncommon.

Another way in which half-votes occur is this: There is a factional fight among the party in a congressional district, and two delegations come from that district, each claiming recognition. The quarrel is a complicated one, and the committee on credentials, to cut the matter short, recommends that both sets of delegates be seated, each delegate to have a half-vote. This is frequently done.

Congressmen.

"Can an United States Senator be properly called a Congressman?"—F. L. J., West Bearn, O.

Most certainly. Is he not a member of the Senate, and is not the Senate one of the two houses of Congress? A Senator is quite as much a Congressman as a Representative is. The habit has grown up of calling Representatives "Congressmen," and always speaking of the members of the other house as "Senators." It is a misuse of the word "Congressman." The members of the lower house should always be called "Representatives," and those of the upper house "Senators," or the word "Congressmen" should be applied to both. It would sound odd to speak to John Sherman as "Congressman Sherman," but he is a Congressman. It only shows how this foolish misuse of the word has become fixed in the popular mind.

The Depths of the Sea.

"In a recent issue you say, in the column of odds and ends, that at the bottom of the deep sea the water is only a few degrees above the freezing point; and again, the temperature of the earth advances one degree for every 50 feet of descent. Why is this difference in temperature between the earth and water at the same depth?"—C. W. F., Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Simply because water is a liquid, and the earth is a solid. In a liquid the particles can move freely among one another; in a solid they can not. The colder water sinks to the bottom, the warmer rises to the top. The ice-cold water from the Polar seas creep along the ocean floor, seeking the depths. The warmest water is that on the surface in tropic seas. In the earth this process can not go on. The further we go down, the nearer we get to the internal fires, and the warmer it is.

Citizens and Voters.

"Do the United States laws say a foreigner must be a citizen of the United States five years before he can vote? Has a state a right to allow him to vote for state officers, short of the five years?"—E. E. M., Crelton, O.

No, the United States laws do not say anything about how long an alien must be in this country before he can vote. The naturalization laws only confer citizenship. That is, the United States confers citizenship upon aliens; the states confers the right to vote. Citizenship and voting are not the same thing. For instance, every woman in the state of Ohio over 21 years old, and born in the United States, is a citizen; but women in Ohio have not the right to vote, save in school elections.

The naturalization laws require five years' residence in the United States before an alien can become a citizen; but several of the states allow aliens who have declared their intention of becoming citizens—that is, who have taken out their "first papers"—and who have resided in the state one year, to become voters, and the state has a full right to do so.

Fourth-Class Postmasters.

As the old soldiers are debarred by age from being appointed under civi service rules, please state if you think we will have the preference to fourth-class postoffice appointments under McKinley's administration."—J. F. D., Belfast, Tenn.

We have no doubt that, if other things are equal, the old soldiers will have the preference in obtaining fourth-class postmasterships. All the same, if any of them are applicants, let them get up as strong petitions as possible, and all the signers thereto they can.

Ohio's State Seal.

"Please let me know the meaning of the bunch of arrows and sheaf of wheat on the seal of the state of Ohio, and what they stand for."—L. M. R., Lancaster, O.

"What is the meaning, if any, of a bunch of arrows tied or clasped in the center? What is the symbolical meaning of such a bunch of arrows?"—M. M. W., Liberty Center, O.

The great seal of the state of Ohio has a range of three sharp pointed hills in the background, with the sun rising over them; a river in the foreground, with an old-fashioned flat-boat; a sheaf of wheat and a bunch of seventeen arrows bound together.

The number of arrows refers to the number of states in the Union at the time Ohio was admitted, it being the seventeenth state. The arrows symbolize strength; they are bound together to signify the union between the states. The sheaf of wheat is the emblem of plenty, and also refers to agriculture, the leading pursuit in Ohio when the great seal was adopted.

Civil Service Positions.

"Since so many thousands of positions have been added to the classified service, are the chances to get a position any surer, or will the present incumbents still continue to hold their positions?"—E. E. S., Huntingdon, Pa.

The incumbents who are under the civil service rules, in the classified service, will hold their places, respective of any change in administration. Consequently the two or three hundred thousand people who are hoping to get places because of the change in administration would better drop all such ideas at once. It is the central idea of civil service reform to make retention in the public service depend entirely upon capability and good service, and not on politics. It is to crush out the "spoils system," which is to uses the office to reward political service.

The Metric System.

"Has the metric system of weights and measures been adopted by Congress? Will it necessitate a resurvey of the land which is now divided in townships?"—J. M. C., Oakwood, O.

Congress passed a law a number of years ago, which permits the metric system to be used. An effort is now making to pass a law compelling its use. We sincerely hope it will pass, and rid us of the antiquated hodge-podge of weights and measures we now have. The enforcement of the metric system would not necessitate a resurvey of land boundaries, of course.

New England's "Dark Day."

"Please tell us about the dark day in New England in the last century—the extent and duration; also, was it observed anywhere else?"—J. M. G., Burlingame, Kan.

The "dark day" was May 19, 1780. For several days the upper strata of the atmosphere seemed smoky and foggy, and the sun and moon were unusually red in color. The weather had been fair and cool for the season, with high barometer. On the morning of May 19 the wind came from the southwest, and the darkness came on with the clouds that came from that quarter. The degree of darkness varied with different localities. In many parts it became so dense that people were unable to read books distinctly or attend to household work without candles. The fowls went to their roosts, the birds to their nests, and the cattle returned to their stalls. In other places, the darkness was not so dense. The darkness was observed all over New England, from Albany on the west; to the southward, it was observed all along the Atlantic coast, and to the northward as far as the white settlements extended. It was due to smoke, or fog, from some unknown cause.

A Notary Public.

S. S. S., Toledo, O., asks: "How can I become a notary public?"

Write to the governor of Ohio, at Columbus, stating that you desire to become a notary, and asking for the necessary blank papers, which will be sent you. You can then fill them out, have the bond executed, and send them back with $1 fee, and your commission will be sent you.

Who Rang Liberty Bell?

"In the Question Bureau of the Weekly Blade of December 31, 1896, you say you have no known name for 'Grandpa' who rang the Liberty Bell on July 4, 1776. According to a story printed in the American Agriculturist of July, 1889, it gives Grandpa's name as Darrah.—M. E. M., New Bethlehem, Pa.

"In reply to your inquiry who rang Liberty Bell July 4, 1776, it was William Hurry."—F. L. J., West Beaver, O.

Well, it is certain his name was not both Darrah and Hurry. We doubt if any one knows what it really was. Once more we ask any reader who has any information on the subject to write us, giving authority.

Miscellaneous.

C. K., Salma, Pa.: We do not know where a skunk farm is located.

. M. T., Seward, Neb.: Address the Superintendent of Education, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

W. H. S., Tuttle, Colo.: Address an inquiry to the Land Commissioner, Washington, D. C.

E. B., Hume, Ill.: We are sorry to say we have not the speech nor any facts as to the author.

S. P. F., Greenville, Cal., asks for a copy of "The Church and the World." Who will send us a copy?

W. W., Wanari, S. D.: Address a letter of inquiry to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, Washington, D. C.

M. A. A., Kickapoo, Wis.: So far as we know there is no premium paid by collectors for greenbacks of the first issue.

J. L. H., Tipton, W. Va.: Your letter has been handed to the editor of the Farmstead. Watch that column for an answer.

D. M. F., Arnica, Mo.: Write a letter to your Representative in Congress, telling him what you wish, and ask him how to proceed.

W. D. B., Oakwood, Ill.: We are sorry to say we do not know. Get a bookseller to inquire by letter of some large Chicago bookseller.

Sport, Linn, Mo.: We can not take the space to print the rules of poker. Cheap books giving them can be ordered through any bookseller.

H. D. F., Creighton, Neb.: Your query on carp culture has been handed to the editor of the Farmstead, to whom it should have been addressed.

S. S. T., Maumee, O.: There is no law of the United States against killing eagles. Such legislation belongs to the states, not to the national government.

F. E. V., Frankfort, Ind.: The material you speak of is patented, and is manufactured in Germany. We have will heard of its being sold in this country as yet.

R. H. B., Little Falls, N. Y.: A foreigner coming into this country to reside would not have to pay duty on silver-plated table ware, woolen blankets, and wearing apparel.

G. C., Kerr, O., asks for the poem "Loss on the Lady Elgin." We have will send a copy to the Bureau? The Lady Elgin was a steamer which was burned on Lake Michigan back in the '70's.

Subscriber, Antwerp, N. Y., asks for the poems, "Mona's Waters" and "Ticket of Leave," and a poem beginning:

"As the first of May is drawing near,
Our church must suffer a change, I fear."

H. N. W., Coventryville, N. Y.: If you mean, did Cleveland receive money, personally, as a bribe, from foreign countries, to institute free trade, or for the bond issue, the answer is, not a cent. What could have put such a foolish idea into your head?

D. C. P., Fermalda, Va.: The land bill which recently passed the Senate affects lands already opened as well as those to be opened. The bill has to go back to the House for concurrence in the Senate amendments, and may be changed there, however.

W. M. W., Hawkeye, Iowa: In Ohio, whether you have a medical diploma or not, you must be examined by the state medical board and pass successfully, or you can not practice. We don't know about Kentucky and Indiana.

H. C., Kenesaw, Neb., asks for particulars of the case occurring in Cleveland's first term, in which an attempt was made to drive settlers from their homes on a reservation opened for settlement by President Arthur. Will some friend who knows the facts send a brief statement for publication?

H. L. K., Astoria, Ill.: The matter of the taxation of property is exclusively a state matter, and the laws of the different states differ. All states except churches and school houses from taxation. Asylums, etc., owned by the state are, of course, exempt from taxation, for why should the state pay taxes on its own property? It would be like taking money out of one pocket and putting it into another; it would not add to the state's revenue.

C. B. R., Charlotte, Mich.: No, a majority of the members of the Indianapolis monetary conference were not owners of bank stock. Most of them were business men—merchants, grocers, manufacturers, etc. Such men are interested in money both as creditors and debtors, and there is no large business firm but borrows large sums to carry on its business, while extending credit to purchasers. You seem to have the idea, born of ignorance, that a man ought to have nothing to say about a matter which affects his business. Would you have farmers excluded from a convention to promote the interests of agriculture, for instance?

A CORRESPONDENCE.

1—She writes:
"Ene, mene, mine, mo
Buy me a wheel, my good old beau."

2—He replies:
"King William was King James' son;
You'll get no wheel for I've no mon."
—Copyrighted.

WITH THE WITS.

They say she loves but what she wears
Her person to adorn;
She doubtless loves her husband,
For does he not look worn?
—Detroit Journal.

"Well, old man, I've spent every cent of money I have in the world on my doctor." "Does he know it?" "I guess he does. He has pronounced me a well man."—Buffalo Courier.

"How's the going, Reuben?" asked the tradesman of the farmer, who had just got into town with a load of produce. "Can't say; haven't gone yet," replied the tiller of the soil; "the farming was pretty bad though."—Yonkers Statesman.

George—How do you like your new master uncle? I hear he is a very fine man. Uncle Richmond—Ya-as, Mars'r George, he's a berry fine man. But, I tell yo,' Mars'r George, dar am sum folks in dis world what t'inks dey made de earth an' de Almighty carted de dirt.—Judge.

Sportsman (to Snobson, who hasn't brought down a single bird all day)—Do you know Lord Peckham? Snobson—Oh, dear, yes, I've often shot at his house, Sportsman—Ever hit it?—London Punch.

—Neuralgia is the prayer of the nerves for pure blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the One True Blood Purifier and nerve builder.

Reparation.

John Butts, Sr.—I want to leave my property to my two sons—one-tenth to my youngest son, John Butts, and nine-tenths to my eldest son, Royal Chesterfield Chauncey de Peyster Butts.

Family Lawyer—H'm! Do you think that's quite fair?

John Butts, Sr.—Yes; I want to make some kind of reparation to Royal for allowing his mother to give him such a crackjaw name.—Tit-Bits.

Sense of Shame.

Wicks—"There is one thing I will say for Blaxter; he never talks about his own writings."

Hicks—"I am glad to hear that. Where there's a sense of shame there's always some hope for reformation."—Boston Transcript.

New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Etc.—Free to Our Readers.

Our readers will be glad to know that the new botanical discovery, Alkavis, has proved an assured cure for all diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or by disordered action of the Kidneys or urinary organs. It is a wonderful discovery, with a record of 1,200 hospital cures in 30 days. It acts directly upon the blood and kidneys, and is a true specific, just as quinine is in malaria. Rev. W. B. Moore, D. D., of Washington, testifies in the New York Christian Witness that Alkavis completely cured him of Kidney and bladder disease of many years' standing. Many ladies also testify to its curative powers in disorders peculiar to womanhood. So far the Church Kidney Cure Company, No. 418 Fourth Avenue, New York, are the only importers of this new remedy, and they so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free treatment of Alkavis prepaid by mail to every reader of The Blade who is a sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder Disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Pain in Back, Female Complaints, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all Sufferers to send their names and address to the company, and receive the Alkavis free. It is sent to you entirely free, to prove its wonderful curative powers.

Troubles of the Day.

"The present trouble is that there are too many men for the number of jobs," said the amateur lecturer on the situation.

"And that ain't all, mister," interrupted Dismal Dawson. "Another trouble is that there is too much work to the job after a man gets it."—Indianapolis Journal.

Kalamazoo, Mich., is famous for celery. See Thos. Slater's offer on page 8.

Father Time has to halt when he meets a woman who knows how to take care of her health. Time can't make her seem old.

She may be the mother of a family; that makes no difference. She is bound to be young because her heart is young and there is rich, young blood circulating in her veins. She doesn't need cosmetics and face-powders and skin-preservers. Pure blood is the only true skin-preserver.

But when a woman's blood is full of bilious impurities, she can neither look young nor feel young. Her whole constitution is poisoned with bad blood. It permeates every part. It paralyzes the nerve-centres; weakens the stomach; irritates the heart, preys upon the lungs and bronchial tubes.

It reduces a woman to a state of weakness, nervousness, irritability, dejection and melancholy. Such a woman can't possibly be youthful, no matter what her age may be. She needs the youthfulness of highly vitalized blood. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will give it to her. It will help any woman to get back her youth and freshness again.

It gives the digestive and blood-making organs and the liver power to produce good, pure, healthy blood. It gives color to the cheeks, and sparkle to the eyes; drives away pimples and blotches; wipes away wrinkles; founds out emaciated forms, and creates firm, natural, healthy flesh.

Mrs. Rebecca P. Gardner, of Grafton, York Co., Va., writes: "When I was married I weighed 125 pounds. I was taken sick and reduced in health and broke out with a disease which my doctor said was eczema. He treated my disease but failed to do me any good, and I fell away to 92 pounds. I began using Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and thank God and you, I began to improve. Now I weigh 140 pounds and have only taken two bottles. I am not so too much about the medicine. My husband says I look younger than I did the first time he saw me, 15 years ago."

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

The Sign of the Cross, by Wilson Barrett. J. B. Lippincott & Company, Philadelphia.

The Balkans, by William Miller, M. A., in Stories of the Nations. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York city.

Portraits of Fishers, by William Harris, editor of the American Angler. 29 West 42nd street, New York city.

Captive Conceits, by Belle Gray Taylor. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York city.

I do not know how it is with other people, but there is always a thrill of horror passes over me when I read the historical stories concerning the early Christians, their terrible sufferings under persecutions, which those who claimed to be their successors inflicted in their turn in other ways, upon those who differed from them in thought. The Sign of the Cross, which has the well-known name of Wilson Barrett appended as the author, is one of these stories. The beautiful heroine, Mercia, is a Christian, beloved by Marcus, a young patrician Roman, who is made the prefect of the city by Nero. This love holds Marcus from joining in the wild dissipations of the dissolute monarch's court, because the vestal man within felt the beauty and nobleness of her character, and he knew that aught of that kind would put her far away from his life. The story is full of dramatic incident and of brilliant dialogue. The Proem is a word picture of the material building of the Cross, and of the spiritual sign which it has been for centuries.

Mr. Wm. C. Harris, the editor of The American Angler, whose work, Fishes of America, has attracted so much interest, has just completed a task which has taken fifteen years to accomplish. This was to paint the native fishes from life at the moment they were taken from the water. He has made a series of eighty portraits which include salmons of Puget Sound, those of the mountains of Idaho; the salt-water fishes of the California coast, and the trouts of the Sierra Nevadas, including the much-talked-about golden trout of the Mount Whitney waters. This is the first systematized collection in their life colors which has ever been made, and its completion really marks an epoch in the literature of the Natural History of North America. The collection is now on exhibition in New York city. Meanwhile the public, or that portion of it which is fortunate enough to see Mr. Harris's book now being issued in parts, will also get the results of his work in the reproduction of the paintings therein. The American Angler is published at 29 West Forty-second street, New York.

One always turns with interest to the series of interesting volumes issued by the Putnams under the title of Stories of the Nations, constituting, as they do, a library in themselves. The latest addition is The Balkans, a short and concise history written by William Miller, of seven countries, of which people in general have very dim idea, and yet it is in the Balkan Peninsula that the never ending, never settled Eastern question had its origin.

In this volume is told in clear, strong terse English, the story of the rise and fall of Roumania, Bulgaria, Servia and Montenegro. It enables the reader to gain some idea of the great problems which still await solution, and which are to-day pressing more strongly than ever upon the attention of thoughtful people. A most remarkable thing which the author points out, is that after so many centuries of the rule of the Moslems, there should be a spark of independent spirit left in the people, and yet to-day, even in Roumania, which has undergone such terrible misfortunes, there is a loyalty to its ideals which is unconquerable. The volume is exceedingly interesting.

A little book of poetry entitled Captive Conceits, by Belle Gray Taylor, will help the lover of verse to while away a very pleasant hour. While great genius does not seem to sparkle and burn in its pages, there are some pretty conceits made captive. The dedication to the author's children will tell the story:

A labor of love, my daughters,
This little book has been,
And oft when the troubled waters
Have rough from rolling in,
I've seen on the crest a pleasant conceit
And captured it, ere it could make its retreat.
To-day I enchain them and surrender to ye
Their keeping, secured by Love's padlock and key.

The Chicago Record Cook Book is a compilation of menus for every day in the year, written by a large number of women in all parts of the country. The aim of the compiler was to furnish a great variety of pleasing and nutritious meals, daintily served, that may be prepared by families whose style of living does not exceed an annual expenditure in provisions of $160 for each person, where the family numbers four or five or more. The holiday menus are a little more elaborate than the average, and are arranged for ten persons, and the cost $5. The recipes which are included in these menus are placed within easy reach of the housewife by a complete classified index. Published by the Chicago Record.

Nor Wife Nor Maid is a story by Mrs. Hungerford, published in paper. It has the usual amount of exciting incidents and sensations that belong to this author's stories which, however, always attract many readers. American Publishers' Corporation, New York city.

The Coming of Theodora, by Eliza Orne White is a pretty story that appeared a year or two ago and found many readers. It is now brought out in paper covers by Houghton Mifflin and Company, of Boston, in their Riverside series.

Darkest Russia, by H. Grattan Donnelly, is said on the cover to be a novelization of the celebrated play now being presented throughout the United States by Sydney R. Ellis. It is published by Street and Smith, 29 Rose street, New York city.

Tales of the Soldiers and Civilians, by Ambrose Bierce, is a collection of stories, well written, many of them of the war times. The following are some of the titles: A Horseman in the Sky; An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge; Chickamauga, etc. Of Civilians—A Watcher by the Dead; The Man and the Snake, etc. American Publishers' Corporation, 310 Sixth avenue, New York city.

Mr. Bailey-Martin, by Percy White, author of Andria, Corruption, etc., is a story of the adventures of a young man who finally marries the daughter of a lord, against her father's wishes, and not because he loves her but to help him on in life. American Publishers' Corporation, New York city.

Facing the Flag, by Jules Verne, is a cheap reprint of a story of adventure for which the author's name will be sure to procure a reading. F. Tennyson Neely, 114 Fifth avenue, New York city, is the publisher.

A Peculiar Irishman, by One Jones, purports to be a story of the life of an old friend of the author, who is painted as a most unique and amusing character, who is always in pursuit of high ideals, and always getting into trouble, but who invariably comes up again hopeful and confident as ever. It is published by The Truth Seeker Company, 28 Lafayette Place, New York city.

The Duke and the Humanitarian, by Libbie Israel Hollinger, is a story written for the purpose of throwing into prominence some of the evils of to-day, and the sufferings of those who try to remedy them. It is not pleasant reading but it is strong writing. Arena Publishing Company, Boston, Mass.

OSTRICH FARMS IN AFRICA.

The rearing of ostriches for their feathers is an industry of which little is known, in spite of the fact that the business has a slight foothold in the United States. South Africa is the place where ostrich-farming flourishes. The country is unlike that of any other part of the globe. It is flat, sandy and relieved only by long, low rocky sierras. It is a dry and arid prospect and it is almost impossible to believe that every inch of the soil is loaded with vegetable life ready to shoot up at the first spring rain. White farm buildings dot the desolate prospect at intervals.

A well-fenced and secure ostrich inclosure is possible only to the wealthy farmers, so every ostrich farmer has his camp, which varies from 2,000 to 8,000 acres, and in it he keeps his 300 or 500 birds, his horses and his cattle. The birds roam over this territory year in and year out, being collected once about every four months to be shorn of their feathers. In June the prime feathers are plucked. They are the long whites, from eighteen to twenty in each wing, eight or more fancy feathers and a few blacks. Four months after these fine feathers are plucked their stumps are drawn out and two months later the short blacks and tail feathers are drawn.

An ostrich in its wild state is terribly afraid of a man but when domesticated first becomes docile, then assumes superiority and the airs of a master when it finds there is nothing to be afraid of. From June to September thousands of ostrich chicks are raised and thousands meet death from many accidents. The nest is a crude affair hollowed out in the sand. One bird will lay from ten to twenty eggs but often three birds will lay in one nest, making seventy or eighty eggs in one nest. These are too many for one bird to hatch and are weeded out. When a nest is hatched the chicks are taken to the homestead to be tamed. During the breeding season the male ostrich is an ugly customer to handle and his note of defiance can be heard at long distances—"brooming," the Dutch call it. He inflates his neck cobra fashion and gives three deep roars like those of the lion. A stout stick or blunt pitchfork is the best weapon to use on an angry bird attacks one. The bird will charge from a thirty-foot line with gleaming eye and never knows when he is beaten.

Collecting birds for plucking is an interesting work. Orders are given the Kaffirs over night and a cavalcade descends on the ostrich camp and the birds driven in from the remote spots where they have wandered. Warfare is freely indulged in, because it makes no difference to an ostrich if there are fifty men to fight instead of one.

HOW TO FIND OUT.

Fill a bottle or common water glass with urine and let it stand twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates a diseased condition of the kidneys. When urine stains linen it is positive evidence of kidney trouble. Too frequent desire to urinate or pain in the back is also convincing proof that the kidneys and bladder are out of order.

WHAT TO DO.

There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills every wish in relieving pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passages. It corrects inability to hold the urine and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following the use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to get up many times during the night to urinate. The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists, price fifty cents and one dollar. For a sample bottle and pamphlet, both sent free by mail, mention The Blade and send your full postoffice address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. The proprietors of this paper guarantee the genuineness of this offer.

The Road to Wealth.

A gentleman saw the following advertisement in a paper: "The road to wealth. Send five stamps to —— ——." The gentleman sent twelve stamps, and in return for his outlay received minute instructions how to get to the Bank of England from any part of London.—Tit-Bits.

—Bronchitis unchecked almost invariably terminates in Consumption; but Bronchitis is curable with Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant. If it bilious, take Jayne's Painless Sanative Pills.

A Warning at New Year's.

"I think, Sambo," said Sweetton addressing his colored valet, and proffering a box of cigars, "I think you'd better swear off."

"Swear off wh-wh-what, sah?"

"Smoking, Sambo, smoking. If you don't you'll get the tobacco heart or the marble heart, sure!"—New York World.

More

Medicinal value in a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla than in any other preparation.

More skill, more care, more expense in manufacture. It costs proprietor

More but it costs the consumer *less*, as he gets more doses for his money.

More curative merit secured by its peculiar combination, proport

Talmage's Sermon.

HEAVENLY RECOGNITION.

Dr. Talmage's Idea of Heaven and Meeting of Friends There.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 25.—Dr. Talmage has been for a few days preaching and lecturing in Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Paul, and his sermon is on a theme which will absorbingly interest all who read it. He returns this week to Washington. The subject is "Heavenly Recognition," and the text II Sam. xii:23, "I shall go to him."

There is a very sick child in the abode of David the king. Disease, which stalks up the dark lane of the poor and puts its smothering hand on lip and nostril of the wan and wasted, also mounts the palace stairs, and bending over the pillow, blows into the face of a young prince the frosts of pain and death. Tears are wine to the King of Terrors. Alas! for David the king. He can neither sleep nor eat, and lies prostrate on his face, weeping and wailing until the palace rings with the outcry of woe.

What are courtly attendants, or victorious armies, or conquered provinces, under such circumstances? What to any parent is all splendid surounding when his child is sick. Seven days have passed on. There, in that great house, two eyelids are gently closed, two little hands folded, two litle feet quiet, one heart still. The servants come to bear the tidings to the king, but they can not make up their minds to tell him, and they stand at the door whispering about the matter and David hears them and he looks up and says to them, "Is the child dead?" "Yes, he is dead." David rouses himself up, washes himself puts on new apparel, and sits down to food. What power hushed that tempest? What strength was it that lifted up that king whom grief had dethroned? Oh, it was the thought that he would come again into the possession of that darling child. No grave digger's spade could hide him. The wintry blasts of death could not put out the bright light. There would be a forge somewhere that with silver hammer would weld the broken links. In a city where the hoofs of the pale horse never strike the pavement he would clasp his lost treasure. He wipes away the tears from his eyes, and he clears the choking grief from his throat, and exclaims, "I shall go to him."

Was David right or wrong? If we part on earth will we meet again in the next world? "Well," says someone, "that seems to be an impossibility. Heaven is so large a place we never could find our kindred there." Going into some city, without having appointed a time and place for meeting, you might wander around for weeks and for months and perhaps for years, and never see each other; and heaven is vaster than all earthly cities together, and how are you going to find your departed friend in that country? It is so vast a realm. John went up on one mountain of inspiration, and he looked off upon the multitude, and he said: "Thousands of thousands." Then he came upon a greater altitude of inspiration and looked off upon it again, and he said: "Ten thousand times ten thousand." And then he came on a higher mount of inspiration, and looked off again, and he said: "A hundred and forty and four thousand and thousands of thousands." And he came on a still greater height of inspiration, and he looked off again, and exclaimed: "A great multitude that no man can number."

Now, I ask, how are you going to find your friends in such a throng as that? Is not this idea we have been entertaining after all a falsity? Is this doctrine of future recognition of friends in heaven a guess, a myth, a whim, or is it a granitic foundation upon which the soul pierced of all ages may build a glorious hope? Intense question! Every heart in this audience throbs right into it. There is in every soul here the tomb of at least one dead. Tremendous question! It makes the lip quiver, and the cheek flush, and the entire nature thrill: Shall we know each other there? I get letters almost every month asking me to discuss this subject. I got a letter in a bold, scholarly hand, on gilt-edged paper, asking me to discuss this question, and I say, "Ah! that is a curious man, and he wants a curious question solved." But I get another letter. It is written with a trembling hand, and on what seems to be a torn-out leaf of a book, and there and here is the mark of a tear; and I say, "Oh, that is a broken heart and it wants to be comforted."

The object of this sermon is to take this theory out of the region of surmise and speculation into the region of positive certainty. People say: How would be very pleasant if that doctrine were true. I hope it may be true. Perhaps it is true. I wish it were true." But I believe that I can bring an accumulation of argument to bear upon this matter which will prove the doctrine of future recognition as plainly as that there is any heaven at all, and that the kiss of reunion at the celestial gate will be as certain as the dying kiss at the door of the sepulchre.

Now, when you are going to build a ship you must get the right kind of timber. You lay the keel and make the framework of the very best materials, the keelson, stanchions, plank-shear, counter-timber, knees, transoms, all iron or solid oak. You may build a ship of lighter material, but when the cyclone comes on it will go down. Now we may have a great many beautiful theories about the future world, built out of our own fancy, and they may do very well as long as we have smooth sailing in the world; but when the storms of sorrow come upon us, and the hurricane of death we will be swamped —we will be foundered. We want a theory built out of God's eternal word. The doctrine of future recognition is not so often positively stated in the word of God as implied, and you know, my friends, that that is, after all, the strongest mode of affirmation. Your friend travels in foreign lands. He comes home. He does not begin by arguing with you to prove that there are such places as London and Stockholm and Paris and Dresden and Berlin, but his conversation implies it. And so this Bible does not positively state this theory as, all up and down its chapters, take it for granted.

What does my text imply? "I shall go to him." What consolation would it be to David to go to his child if he would not know him? Would David have been allowed to record this anticipation for the inspection of all ages if it were a groundless anticipation? We read in the first book of the Bible, Abraham died and was gathered to his people. Jacob died and was gathered to his people. Moses died and was gathered to his people. What people? Why, their friends, their comrades, their old companions. Of course it means that, It cannot mean anything else. So in the very beginning of the Bible four times that is taken for granted. The whole New Testament is an arbor over which this doctrine creeps like a luxuriant vine full of the purple clusters of consolation. James, John and Peter, followed Christ into the mountain. A light falls from heaven on that mountain and lifts it into the glories of the celestial. Christ's garments glow and his face shines like the sun. The door of heaven swings open. Two spirits come down and alight on that mountain. The disciples look at them and recognize them as Moses and Elias. Now, if those disciples standing on the earth could recognize these two spirits who had been for years in heaven, do you tell me that we, with our heavenly eyesight, will not be able to recognize those who have gone out from among us only five, ten, twenty, thirty years ago?

The Bible indicates over and over again, that angels know each other; and then the Bible says that we are to be higher than the angels, and if the angels have the power of recognition, shall not we, who are to be higher than they in the next realm, have as good eyesight and as good capacity? What did Christ mean, in his conversation with Mary and Martha, when he said, "Thy brother shall rise again?" It was as much as to say, "Don't cry. Don't wear yourselves out with this trouble. You will see him again. Thy brother shall rise again."

The Bible describes heaven as a great home circle. Well, now, that would be a very queer home circle where the members did not know each other. The Bible describes death as a sleep. If we know each other before we go to sleep, shall we not know each other after we wake up? Oh, yes. We will know each other a great deal better then than now; "for now," says the apostle, "we see through a glass darkly, but then face to face. It will be my purified, enthroned, and glorified body gazing on your purified, enthroned, and glorified body.

Now, I demand, if you believe the Bible, that you take this theory of future recognition out of the realm of speculation and surmise into the region of positive certainty, and no more keep saying, "I hope it is so; I have an idea it is so; I guess it is so." Be able to say, with all the concentrated energy of body, mind and soul, "I know it is so!"

There are, in addition to these Bible arguments, other reasons why I accept this theory. In the first place, because the rejection of it implies the entire obliteration of the memory. Can it be possible that we shall forget forever those with whose walk, look, manner we have been so long familiar? Will death come and with a sharp, keen blade hew away this faculty of memory? Abraham said to Dives, "Son, remember." If the exiled and lost remember, will not the enthroned remember?

You know very well that our joy in any circumstance is augmented by the companionship of our friends. We cannot see a picture with less than four eyes, or hear a song with less than four ears. We want some one beside us with whom to exchange glances and sympathies; and I suppose the joy of heaven is to be augmented by the fact that we are to have our friends with us when there rise before us the thrones of the blessed, and when there surges up in our ear the jubilate of the saved. Heaven is not a contraction. It is an expanston. If I know you here, I will know you better there. Here I see you with only two eyes, but there the soul shall have a million eyes. It will be immortality gazing on immortality—ransomed spirit in colloquy with ransomed spirit—victor beside victor. When John Evans, the Scotch minister, was seated in his study, his wife came in and said to him: "My dear, do you think we will know each other in heaven?" He turned to her and said: "My dear, do you think we will be bigger fools in heaven than we are here?"

Again, I accept this doctrine of future recognition because the world's expectancy affirms it. In all lands and ages this theory is received. What form of religion planted it? No form of religion, for it is received under all forms of religion. Then, I argue, a sentiment, a feeling, an anticipation, universally planted, must have been God-implanted, and if God implanted it it is rightfully implanted. Socrates writes, "Who would not part with a great deal to purchase a meeting with Orpheus and Homer? If it be true that this is to be the consequence of death, I could even be able to die often."

Among the Danes, when a master dies his servant sometimes slays himself that he may serve the master in the future world. Cicero, living before Christ's coming, said: "Oh, glorious day when I shall retire from this low and sordid scene, to associate with the divine assemblage of departed spirits and not only with the one I have just mentioned, but with my dear Cato, the best of sons and most faithful of men. If I seemed to bear his death with fortitude, it was by no means that I did not most sensibly feel the loss I had sustained. It was because I was supported by the consoling reflection that we could not long be separated."

The Norwegian believes it. The Indian believes it. The Greenlander believes it. The Swiss believes it. The Turks believe it. Under every sky, by every river, in every zone, the theory is adopted; and so I say a principle universally implanted must be God-implanted, and hence a right belief. The argument is irresistible.

Again, I adopt this theory because there are features of moral temperament and features of the soul that will distinguish us forever. How do we know each other in this world? Is it merely by the color of the eye, or the length of the hair, or the facial proportions? Oh, no. It is by the disposition as well, by natural athuity, using the word in the very best sense; and not in the bad sense; and if in the dust our body should perish and lie there forever, and there should be no resurrection, still the sould has enough features and the disposition has enough features to make us distinguishable. I can understand how in sickness a man will become so delirious that he will not know his friends; but will we be blasted with such insufferable idiocy that, standing beside our best friends for all eternity, we will never guess who they are?

Again, I think that one reason why we ought to accept this doctrine is because we never in this world have an opportunity to give thanks to those to whom we are spiritually indebted. The joy of heaven, we are told, is to be inaugurated by a review of life's work. These Christian men and women who have been toiling for Christ, have they seen the full result of their work? Oh, no.

In the church at Somerville, N. J., John Vredenburgh preached for a great many years. He felt that his ministry was a failure, although he was a faithful minister, preaching the gospel all the time. He died amid discouragements, and went home to God; for no one ever doubted that John Vredenburgh was a good Christian minister. A little while after his death there came a great awakening at Somerville, and one Sabbath two hundred souls stood up at the Christian altar espousing the cause of Christ, among them my own father and mother. And what was peculiar in regard to nearly all of those two hundred souls was that they dated their religious impressions from the ministry of John Vredenburgh. Will that good Christian man before the throne of God never meet those souls brought to Christ through his instrumentality? Oh, of course he will know them. I remember one Sabbath afternoon, borne down with the sense of my sins, and knowing not God, I took up Doddridge's "Rise and Progress." Oh, what a dark afternoon it was, and I read the chapters, and I read the prayers, and I tried to make the prayers my own. Oh, I must see Philip Doddridge. A glorious old book he wrote! It is out of fashion now. There is a mother before the throne of God. You say her joy is full. Is it? You say there can be no augmentation of it. Cannot there be? Her son was a wanderer and a vagabond on the earth when that mother died. He broke her old heart. She died leaving him in the wilderness of sin. She is before the throne of God now. Years pass and that son repents of his crimes and gives his heart to God and becomes a useful Christian, and dies and enters the gates of heaven. You tell me that that mother's joy cannot be augmented. Let them confront each other, the son and the mother. "Oh," she says to the angels of God, "rejoice with me! The dead is alive again, and the lost is found. Hallelujah! I never expected to see this lost one come back." The Bible says nations are to be born in a day. When China comes to God will it not know Dr. Abeel? When India comes, will it not know Dr. John Scudder? When the Indians come to God will they not know David Brainerd?

I see a soul entering heaven at last, with covered face at the idea that it has done so little for Christ, and feeling borne down with unworthiness, and it says to itself, "I have no right to be here." A voice from a throne says, "Oh, you forget that Sunday school class you invited to Christ! I was one of them." And another voice says, "You forget that poor man to whom you gave a loaf of bread, and told of the heavenly bread. I was that man." And another says, "You forget that sick one to whom you gave medicine for the body and the soul. I was that one." And then Christ, from a throne overtopping all the rest, will say, "Inasmuch as ye did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me." And then the seraphs will take their harps from the side of the throne, and cry, "What song shall it be?" And Christ, bending over the harpers, shall say, "It shall be the Harvest Home."

One more reason why I am disposed to accept this doctrine of future recognition is that so many in their last hour on earth have confirmed this theory. I speak not of persons who have been delirious in their last moment and knew not what they were about, but of persons who died in calmness and placidity, and who were not naturally superstitious. Often the glories of heaven have struck the dying pillow, and the departing man has said he saw and heard those who had gone away from him. How often it is in the dying moments parents see their departed children and children see their departed parents. I came down to the banks of the Mohawk river. It was evening, and I wanted to go over the river, and so I waved my hat and shouted, and after awhile I saw someone waving on the opposite bank, and I heard him shout, and the boat came across, and I got in and was transported. And so I suppose it will be in the evening of our life. We will come down to the river of death and give a signal to our friends on the other shore, and they will give a signal back to us, and the boat comes and our departed kindred are the oarsmen, the fires of the setting day tinging the tops of the paddles.

Oh, have you never sat by such a deathbed? In that hour you hear the departing soul cry, "Hark! look!" You hearkened and you looked. A little child pining away because of the death of its mother, getting weaker and weaker every day, was taken into the room where hung the picture of her mother. She seemed to enjoy looking at it and then she was taken away, and after awhile died. In the last moment that wan and wasted little one lifted her hands while her face lighted up with the glory of the next world, and cried out, "Mother!" Do you tell me that she did not see her mother? She did. So in my first settlement at Belleville a plain man said to me, "What do you think I heard last night? I was in the room where one of my neighbors was dying. He was a good man, and he said he heard the angels of God singing before the throne. I haven't much poetry about me, but I listened and I heard them too." Said I, "I have no doubt of it." Why, we are to be taken up to heaven at last by ministering spirits. Who are they to be? Souls that went up from Madras, or Antioch, or Jerusalem? Oh, no! our glorified kindred are going to troop around us.

Heaven is not a stately, formal place, as I sometimes hear it described, a very frigidity of splendor, where people stand on cold formalities and go around about with heavy crowns of gold on their heads. No, that is not my idea of heaven. My idea of heaven is more like this: You are seated in the evening-tide by the fireplace, your whole family there or nearly all of them there. While you are seated talking and enjoying the evening hour, there is a knock at the door and the door opens, and there comes in a brother that has been long absent. He has been absent, for years you have not seen him, and no sooner do you make up your mind that it is certainly he than you leap up, and the question is who shall give him the first embrace. That is my idea of heaven—a great home circle where they are waiting for us. Oh, will you not know your mother's voice there? She who always called you by your first name long after others had given you the formal "Mister?" You were never anything but James, or John, or George, or Thomas, or Mary, or Florence to her. Will you not know your child's voice? She of the bright eye and the ruddy cheek, and the quiet step, who came in from play and flung herself into your lap, a very shower of mirth and beauty? Why, the picture is graven in your soul. It cannot wear out. If that little one should stand on the other side of some heavenly hill and call to you, you would hear her voice above the burst of heaven's great orchestra. Know it! You could not help but know it.

Now I bring you this glorious consolation of future recognition. If you could get this theory into your heart it would lift a great many shadows that are stretching across it. When I was a lad I used to go out to the railroad track and put my ear down on the track, and I could hear the express train rumbling miles away, and coming on; and to-day, my friends, if we only had faith enough we could put our ear down to the grave of our dead, and listen and hear in the distance the rumbling on of the chariots of resurrection victory.

O heaven! sweet heaven! You do not spell heaven as you used to spell it, h-e-a-v-e-n, heaven. But now when you want to spell that word you place side by side the faces of the loved ones who are gone, and in that irradiation of light and love and beauty and joy, you spell it out as never before, in songs and hallelujahs. Oh, ye whose hearts are down under the sod of the cemeteries, cheer up at the thought of this reunion. Oh, how much you will have to tell them when once you meet them.

How much you have been through since you saw them last. On the shining shore you will talk it all over. The heartaches. The loneliness. The sleepless nights. The weeping until you had no more power to weep, because the heart was withered and dried up. Story of vacant chair, and empty cradle and little shoe only half worn out, never to be worn again, just the shape of the foot that once pressed it. And dreams had come back again, and the room seemed bright with their faces, and you started up to greet them, and in the effort the dream broke and you found yourself standing amid-room in the midnight—alone. Talking it all over, and then, hand in hand, walking up and down in the light. No sorrow, no tears, no death. Oh, heaven! beautiful heaven! Heaven where our friends are. Heaven where we expect to be. In the East they take a cage of birds and bring it to the tomb of the dead, and then they open the door of the cage, and the birds, flying out, sing. And I would to-day bring a cage of Christian consolation to the grave of your loved ones, and I would open the door and let them fill the air with the music of their voices.

Oh, how they bound in, these spirits before the throne! Some shout with gladness. Some break forth into uncontrollable weeping for joy. Some stand speechless in their shock of delight. They sing. They uprive with excessive gladness. They gaze on the temples, on the palaces, on the waters, on each other. They weave their joy into garlands, they spring it into triumphant arches, they strike on timbers, and then all the loved ones gather in a great circle around the throne of God—fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sons and daughters, lover and friends, hand to hand around about the throne—the circle hand to hand, joy to joy, jubilee to jubilee, victory to victory, until the day break and the shadows flee away. Turn, my beloved, and be like a roe or a young hart upon the mountains of Bether."

Oh, how different it is on earth from the way it is in heaven when a Christian dies. We say: "Close his eyes." in heaven they say: "Give him a palm." On earth we say: "Let him down in the ground." In heaven they say: "Hoist him on a throne." And so I see a Christian soul coming down to the river of death. He steps into the river, and the water comes up to the ankle. He says: "Lord Jesus is this death?" "No," says Christ, "this is not death." And he wades still deeper down into the waters until the flood comes to the knee, and he says "Lord Jesus tell me, is this death?" And Christ says, "No, no, this is not death." And he wades still further down until the waves comes to the girdle, and the soul says, "Lord Jesus is this death?" "No," says Christ, "this is not." And deeper is wades the soul till the billow strikes the lip, and the departing one cries, "Lord Jesus, is this death?" "No," says Christ, "this is not." But when Christ had lifted this soul on a throne of glory, and all the pomp and joy of heaven came surging to its feet, then Christ said, "This, oh transported soul! this is death!"

Throat Coughs

Is there a tickling in the throat? Do you cough a great deal, especially when lying down? Are you hoarse at times? Does nearly every cold you take settle in your throat? These "throat coughs" are very deceptive. Don't neglect them. Troches, or cough syrups won't touch the spot. You must take remedies that will enrich the blood, tone up the nerves; and heal the inflamed membranes.

SCOTT'S EMULSION of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites contains such remedies. It has wonderful nourishing and healing power. The cause of the cough is removed; the whole system is given new life and vigor; and the danger from threatening lung trouble is swept away.

Book about it free.

For sale by all druggists at 50c. and $1.00.

SCOTT & BOWNE, New York.

"SHE DRESSES WELL."

BUT HER CLOTHES OFTEN COVER A LIVING DEATH.

Beauty Is the Shrine of Men's Worship, and Women Vie With Each Other to Make Themselves Attractive.

The remark, "She dresses elegantly," is a very common one in this age of wealth and progress.

Women vie with each other in making themselves attractive, for men admire a stylishly dressed woman.

Good clothes add to the charms of the woman in perfect health, but are ill-befitting those who through ignorance or carelessness have suffered the inroads of female diseases to stamp them as physical wrecks. It is unfortunate, but true, that some physicians allow women to suffer needlessly, because man can only work from theory, and at best only patch up, without removing the cause.

Proof is abundant that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound removes the cause, gives strength to the weakened organs, vigorous health to the system, and therefore beauty to the face and form.

Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass., gladly answers, free of charge all letters.

Here is one of the results:

"Three months ago, I wrote you a letter describing my troubles, which were inflammation of the womb and bladder. I had not seen a well day since the birth of my second child, 16 years ago. I had spent hundreds of dollars for doctors and medicines.

"Such pains as I endured. My back ached, my feet and limbs were swollen, and it was almost impossible for me to stand; I could not walk any distance. I received your answer to my letter, and followed closely all your advice, and I have been using Lydia E. Pinkham's Compound for three months. Now I can work all day without pain. I have recommended the Compound to many of my friends, and gladly recommend it to all women in any way afflicted with female troubles."—LYDIA BATIE, 227 Spring St., Greensburg, Pa.

SUBSTITUTION

the FRAUD of the day.

See you get Carter's

Ask for Carter's

Insist and demand

Carter's Little Liver Pills

The only perfect

Liver Pill.

Take no other,

Even if

Solicited to do so.

Beware of imitations

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PATENTS Lehmann, Pattison & Nesbit Washington, D. C. Examinations free. Send for circular.

SMALL POINTS OF DRESS.

The Handy Bolero and the Becoming Sash Can Beautify Any Afternoon House Waist.

The woman who has a skirt of pretty figured material and a waist of any color of plain silk can make herself a gown for afternoon or early evening tea.

The sleeves she must first remove and replace them with triple puffs of silk or chiffon. These should be elbow length. Over the waist she can then slip a little

BOLERO, COLLAR AND SASH TO MATCH.

bolero, cut rather short, and profusely trimmed with the small brilliant trimmings of the season. A little cloth bolero, studded with beads in turquoise and pear colors, is as effective as anything that is made.

The waist is belted with a double sash of ribbon put on oriental style by knotting at the side and left trailing to the floor. The color of the ribbon must match the bolero and the sleeve puffs. A tall collar of ribbon finished with a ruff of the sleeve material makes the desired pretty neck finish.

One very dressy girl in town has finished up one of her old last summer's lawns in this way, and is preparing a worn out black silk blouse in similar manner. She declares that the least scrap of an old waist can be fixed up into a very dressy afternoon tea gown.

EXCLUDED AND EXCLUSIVE.

Why Madge Changed Her Mind Twice About the Wayuppes' Tea.

"Shall I see you at Nell's tea to-morrow?" inquired the girl in the picture hat.

"Certainly not," replied the girl in the velvet poke. "I am surprised that you ask."

"Why, have you fallen out? I thought——"

"Not at all," replied the girl in the velvet poke, "but really one must draw the line somewhere."

"Why," said the girl in the picture hat, "I always thought the Wayuppes were awfully nice people."

"Did you?" said the girl in the velvet poke, pursing up her lips. "Oh, well, if you are satisfied, it's all right."

"Well, er—Nell does do rather queer things sometimes, still——"

"Oh, it's all right if you care to go; I am rather surprised, that's all. I suppose I am rather exclusive."

"Not any more so than I am," said the girl in the picture hat. "I—I really had not quite decided to go to the tea, anyhow."

"Of course, it is just as you feel, dear. Don't you think that Nell's gowns are rather impossible this year?" And what a loud, unrefined laugh she has!"

"That's true. I've noticed it myself. I believe I shall not go to her tea, after all."

"Then let me overpersuade you, dear," said the girl in the velvet poke. "As I said, I am, perhaps, too exclusive."

"I am just as exclusive as you are any day," said the girl in the picture hat, reddening, "and I'd like to see anybody persuade me out of a thing I had made up my mind not to do!"

"Oh, well, if you have decided not to go, I am very well pleased, though I did not wish to influence you."

"You didn't!" said the girl in the picture hat. "My mind was quite made up when I came in. May I just sit down here at your desk and write regrets?"

"Certainly, dear. The violet paper will do, I suppose. No need to waste the best on her."

"H'm! It's just as well to impress her, dear; so I'll take the best. What day of the month is it?"

"The second. I think, though, it may be the third. Come in!" she called, in response to a knock. "Why, Marie, is that you? I'm awfully glad to see you. Take that easy chair."

"I can't dear. I haven't a minute to stay. I only ran in to ask if you have, after all, received an invitation to Nell's tea. Really, it was too bad of her leaving you out when you had gotten a new gown especially for the occasion. I told her so to-day, but she said she had been weeding out her visiting list and meant to be quite exclusive this season. Why, Madge, is that you over in the corner? What are you doing?"

"Tearing up a note I have decided not to send," said the girl in the picture hat. "What would you wear to Nell's tea if you were in my place?"—Chicago Times-Herald.

Blood is Life.

It is the medium which carries to every nerve, muscle, organ and fibre its nourishment and strength. If the blood is pure, rich and healthy you will be well; if impure, disease will soon overtake you. Hood's Sarsaparilla has power to keep you in health by making your blood rich and pure.

HOOD'S PILLS are easy to take, easy to operate. Cure indigestion, billousness. 25c.

A Bicycle Surgeon.

Harper's Round Table:—There are enterprising people in England as well as in this country. A year or more ago London was flooded with the following circular by a bicycle repairer, which is ingenious enough in its wording to have been the product of a Yankee:

"Bicycle surgery.

"Acute and chronic cases treated with assurance of success.

"Languid tires restored to health and vigor.

"Tires blown up without pain. Wind free. No cure, no pay asked.

"We understand the anatomy, physiology and hygiene of wheels, and homeopathic and allopathic treatment, as individual cases require. Sure cure guaranteed.

"Testimonials:

"'My wheel had three ribs fractured, and you cured it in one treatment.'

"'My tires were suffering with a case of acute aneurism, which had been pronounced fatal by other bicycle doctors, but you cured the disorder, and I did not lose a day of my tour.'

"Thousands of testimonials like the above sent on application.

"DR. BLANK, B. S. (Bicycle Surgeon.)

"No. — Tottenham Court Road."

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

What the Two Extremes Produced.

"You see, he was a young man with a future——"

"Yes."

"And he met the woman with a past——"

"Ah!"

"And now she has the handsomest present."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

PISO'S CURE FOR CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION

FILLING A BULLDOG'S TEETH.

An Operation That a Scranton Dentist Did With Hesitation.

A powerful and ferocious bulldog, owned by Dr. Ward, of Scranton, Pa., enjoys the distinction of having a big gold filling in one of his incisors, and a good many citizens, who have caught a gleam of the gold in his mouth, wonder how the filling was done. Some think it was done through hypnotic influence by the doctor over the dog, while others insist that it was through the dog's implicit obedience to his master's command.

The dog's name is Gem. He is as ugly in appearance as a prize winner in a dog show. His nose is a mass of wrinkles, and his eyes have a wicked gleam for any one but his master and Mrs. Ward. His affection for them, however, knows no bounds. When Gem was discovered one day clasping his muzzle between his paws, rolling over and over on the floor, and moaning, his mouth was examined, and it was found that there was a big cavity in one of the incisors. It was decided that a dentist should be consulted. The dentist found that it would be necessary to use a rubber dam, and he promised to fill the cavity provided Gem was etherized. This was done, and the operation was considered a successful one, although Gem evidently thought otherwise. Some time afterward the filling came out, and Gem's last state was worse than his first, for he refused to submit to another operation with ether. At the first sniff of the anaesthetics he not only added a score of wrinkles to those already in his nose, but showed his teeth in so dangerous a way that the dentist refused to proceed. Dr. Ward insisted that he could make Gem stand on the table and have the tooth filled without wincing. The dentist was dubious about trusting his hand between the brute's jaws, but finally consented to try.

Gem was put on the table and his master stood in front of him, kept his eyes fixed on Gem's, and told him to open his mouth. Gem did so, and a rubber dam was soon adjusted in place. The dentist set to work with the instrument of torture called a burr, and one of Gem's ears went down in a threatening way, while the other remained cocked. The doctor held one finger raised and kept his eyes fixed on Gem's, that never wandered from his master's gaze. The attitude of Gem's ears proved a barometer of his sufferings, when the burr touched a spot close to the nerve. When both ears went down the dentist knew he had gone as far as dogs' nature would let him go. Gem's eyes never wandered from the doctor's in the hour and a half the dentist was at work. Gem stood the final polishing, and when his master gave the word for him to get down from the table Gem danced with demonstrations of joy at his release. Since that day he has no trouble in masticating the biggest beef bone.—New York Sun.

The Sunday School.

True and False Giving.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.—I Sam. 16:7.

(Acts 4:32 to 5:11. Memory verses 32, 33.)

32. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul; neither said any of them that aught of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

33. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus; and great grace was upon them all.

34. Neither was there any among them that lacked; for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

35. And laid them down at the apostles' feet; and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

36. And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite and of the country of Cyprus,

37. Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

5:1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,

2. And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

3. But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

4. While it remained was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

5. And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost, and great fear came on all them that heard these things.

6. And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him.

7. And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in.

8. And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? and she said, Yea, for so much.

9. Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.

10. Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost; and the young men came in, and found her dead, and carrying her forth, buried her by her husband.

11. And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.

Illustrative Applications.

Of one heart and soul; and not one of them said that aught of the things which he possessed was his own. And with great power gave the apostles their witness; and great grace was upon them all (vs. 32, 33). Unity, sharing and loving brotherhood, great power, great grace,—it was through such means that the early church so triumphed. And these things are inter-related, and grow out of, and minister to each other. Unity conduces to brotherhood, and these two issue in power, and the crowning result of the three is grace—the special conferring of the gifts of the Spirit. Nothing can withstand a church in which such things are even measurably apparent. Fair as moon, bright as sun, triumphing as a bannered army, is such a church. Did you ever wait to think how multiplied Peter's power must have been because he stood forth among such accordant, loving, gracious company, because he had such company behind him? Powerful as Peter was in and of himself, and now filled with the Spirit, he had been vastly shorn of power if those who followed him had been divided and at cross-purposes. A pastor at the head of a united, loving, and therefore gracious church, is girded with a power simply by such fact. A superintendent with such school behind him, or a teacher with such class, can and will wield things. Nothing so leaves of power or hinders religious work as bickerings, mean jealousies, unbrotherliness of any sort. In proportion as we approach the ideal the early church holds out of unity, brotherhood, and so power and so grace, shall we conquer, as did the early church. Anybody even though it be but a single person, who breaks unity and damages brotherhood, and so lessens power and prevents grace, takes terrible responsibility upon himself. A quarreling church or Sunday school! Ah, me! you might as well expect roses outdoors in December as to think to find in such anything but weakness, disaster, defeat.

How is it that thou hast conceived this thing in thy heart? (v. 4.) The exact translation is, Why didst thou put in thy heart this thing? There is a very real and radical distinction to be drawn an evil thought and a personally sinful thought. Even our Lord was troubled with evil thoughts; but our Lord was stainless, they never became personally sinful thoughts. When, in the temptation in the wilderness, Satan thrust into the consciousness of our Lord the suggestion, "Command that these stones be made bread," there was then an evil thought present to our Lord. So Satan, we are distinctly told in verse 3 thrust into the consciousness of Ananias the evil suggestion of deceivingly giving out part of the price as though it were the whole. Why did not the evil thought become a personally sinful one in the case of our Lord? and why did the evil thought become a personally sinful one in the case of Ananias? I know no more important practical question. The inquiry of Peter, "Why didst thou put in thy heart this thing?" thoroughly clears the matter. Our Lord did not put in his heart Satan's evil suggestion, he at once refused it. So, though there was the evil suggestion, he was still sinless, because the evil sugestion was not, for an instant, given residence. But Ananias took Satan's bad suggestion, and put it in his heart, and so changed evil thought into personally sinful thought. The old schoolmen used to say that in every act of sin there are these three elements, the suggestion, the delectation, the consent. For the suggestion of evil we are not always to blame. But we are to blame, and we at once transmute evil thought into personally sinful thought, the instant we allow suggestion to pass over into delectation; the instant we delightingly and volitionally put the thing into our heart, that instant we have sinned, even though we never go on into consent, and do the bad deed. For there are sins of thought as well as sins of action. Somebody has quaintly but truly put it all: "You cannot help the birds flying over your head, but as long as you've got hands, God will hold you responsible for letting them build their nests in your hair." Behold, then, the critical place at which to fight sin—the place of the delectation, the putting into your heart the evil thought. And the best way to fight sin, and right here, is instantly to turn the attention toward, and to begin to think of, things right and pure. It was thus our Lord did. This was his quick reply to Satan's bad suggestion: "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."—Wyland Hoyt, D. D., in Sunday School Times.

SUDDEN CHANGES OF WEATHER cause Throat Diseases. There is no more effectual remedy for Coughs, Colds, etc., than Brown's Bronchial Troches. Sold only in boxes. Price 25 cents.

Too Much Like Life.

Mrs. Birmingham—Let me read you this story, dear.

Mr. Birmingham—What is it about?

Mrs. Birmingham—It is called, "But men Must Work."

Mr. Birmingham—No, don't read that. I don't care for so much realism in fiction.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Our Remarkable Tastes.

"There's a great noise in the chorus dressing room," observed the stage carpenter. "I wonder what's going on in there?"

"Oh, nothing much," rejoined the scene shifter, rather positively.

Indeed, a debauched but inexorable public taste would rebel were very much to go on in there.—Detroit Journal.

Lot.

"Darling," he cried, passionately, "I know our troubles are great, but must you, therefore, leave me? You said you would share my lot."

"Yes, but nothing was said of a job lot," she answered, with a sad, sweet smile.—Detroit Journal.

In Bondage.

"My father and mother were slaves at the time of my birth."

"So you were a sort of bond issue."—New York Journal.

THEATRE BONNET.

Pretty and Small Enough Not to Be in the Way.

If theatre goers would show the consideration which is due to others, they would never be guilty of wearing a large hat to the theatre. There are numberless pretty small hats and bonnets to be had.

A pretty little bonnet is composed of a coronet of cut steel on a bandeau of white satin ribbon. On either side of the coronet there are several loops of the ribbon, which stand out from the side.

A pretty collarette which was worn with this theatre hat was of lace and mink fur and wide satin ribbon. The

FOR THE THEATRE.

crush collar was of the ribbon tied in a large bow in the back. The ends of the bow were bordered with the fur. On either side of the fur in front were two mink tails, which fell over a jabot of the lace. Beneath the lace was a long tab of the ribbon, sewed on either side of the collar.

The woman who is sensible enough to adopt this style for the theatre will have nothing to regret, as she is not only dressed becomingly and in good taste, but she allows others who sit back of her to see the stage.

MAD WITH A TOOTHACHE.

So She Smote the Dentist in the Jaw When He Kept on Waltzing.

Sh was afflicted with the toothache until she could contemplate death without a shudder, says the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. In fact, she longed for it. Life had lost its charms. She wanted to be an angel. But death would not come for the wishing, and she sought out a dentist, that he might relieve her of her suffering.

She walked into the place, looking like a schoolgirl with a bad case of the mumps or a prize fighter who had run up against a buzz saw. She had never been at dentist before, and it did not take her long to make her wants known and flounce into the chair.

It happened that two musical friends of the tooth carpenter had dropped in to see him that morning, and as soon as the girl hit the chair they struck up a waltz.

The dentist fell in with the suggestion. He walked over to the chair to examine the tooth. Then he waltzed across the room to get his forceps. Then he waltzed back. Over he waltzed again to get something he had forgotten. Then he waltzed back. Several times he pirouetted round the room, and finally waltzed to the chair again, where the poor girl was suffering agonies.

Suddenly she sat up.

"Look here!" she exclaimed. "Are you going to waltz around here all day, or are you going to pull this tooth?"

"Well, it is kinder aggravating, isn't it?" he asked, and grinned as though it were a great joke.

Then he waltzed over to the door leading into the next room to tell his wife to come in and see the fun.

Then he waltzed back.

Just then his fair patron reached forward, and giving swing of her right hand and smote him a good, sound smack on the side of the face.

"You think you're funny, don't you?"

That was all she said. She walked out to find somebody who made a business of pulling teeth.

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1897.

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THE NICARAGUA CANAL BILL.

A very strong effort is making to push the Nicaragua canal bill through at this session of Congress. It has been introduced in both Houses, and in the Senate its success seems to be assured. There was something of a test as to strength in this matter, when a motion was made to adjourn over until Monday. This proposition was supported by the opponents of the canal bill, but they were only able to muster 12 votes in its behalf, which was just the number registered against the taking up of the bill when it was brought before the Senate for action last week. This seems to be a pretty strong indication that the bill will pass if it is brought to a vote in the Senate, and as over one-half of the House is on the petition to the rules committee asking that it be given a date in the House, the indications for its passage before the end of the session seem to be pretty good.

The bill before the Senate is precisely the same as that before the House. It authorizes the present Nicaraguan Canal Company to withdraw and cancel all its stock, and to issue in its stead one million shares of $100 each, of which the secretary of the Treasury is to subscribe for 700,000 shares, the consideration for these shares being that the United States shall guarantee the payment of principal and interest of the $100,000,000 worth of bonds which the company may issue from time to time for use in the construction of the canal.

This would give the United States the practical ownership of the canal, as provision is made for the issuance of but about 150,000 of the 300,000 shares of remaining stock after the 700,000 shares are issued to the United States, these shares to go to the holders of shares in the present company, and including the shares belonging to Nicaragua and Costa Rica, under the agreement by which they consent to the construction of the canal. The bonds are to run 30 years, and may be foreclosed at any time after the canal has been five years in operation in case of failure to pay the interest upon them by the company.

The members of the company and the advocates of the bill are confident that the bonds, with the government guarantee would be readily sold, and that the sum which they would bring would be ample to complete and open the canal. Indeed it is Senator Morgan's belief that not over eight millions will be needed to complete it, and while he believes that it will readily pay a good profit on the investment aside from interest, he is of opinion that the money would be well expended by the United States even if she should be compelled to pay every dollar of the bonds and interest.

FORESTRY.

All who are interested in the subject of forestry, which touches the great questions of rainfall and water supply, and hence the prosperity of our agriculture and the commerce of inland rivers, will be glad to learn that the annual meeting of the American Forestry Association will be held on February 5, at Washington, D. C.

At the day session the annual election of officers will take place, and general business be transacted. In the evening a joint session will be held with the National Geographic Society, at which time addresses will be delivered by Mr. B. E. Fernow, chief of the Forestry division, Department of Agriculture, and Mr. Arthur P. Davis, hydrographer of the United States geological survey, on the gardens, forests and deserts of Arizona.

There is a growing interest all over the West in the subject of irrigation, and in the reforesting of mountain regions wherein are the sources of rivers, as well as the extension of forest areas over treeless regions, because if the vast influence of forests upon water supply. The association and its proceedings should receive much greater attention at the hands of the masses of the American people than it has, as yet, succeeded in obtaining.

THE BAILEY BILL.

Strong protests from various commercial bodies are going to Washington against the passage of the Bailey bankruptcy bill, now up before the Senate. There is little prospect that this bill will become a law. It can hardly fail to be rejected by the House, which has before it the favorably reported Torrey bill. The latter, is, as almost everybody must know by this time, by far the preferable measure. It has been endorsed by commercial bodies all over the country and twice passed by the lower branch of Congress. The Bailey bill has been endorsed by no commercial organizations and condemned by many. If the original Torrey act cannot be passed now, the whole subject might better be deferred till the next Congress. Sooner or later the right thing will be done, and the adoption of half-way measures now can only the longer postpone the real reform.

THE NEXT SENATE.

The re-election of Senator Pritchard, of North Carolina, and the improved prospect of the election of a Republican Senator in Kentucky, seem likely to reduce materially the complication regarding the Republican control of the Senate in the incoming Congress, and may result in their having an absolute majority in that body. Pritchard's election insures the Republicans 43 votes in the Senate, and the election of a Republican from Kentucky, which now seems probable, would bring their total vote up to 44. With all the seats filled, there would be 90 members of the Senate and the Republicans would yet lack one of a sufficient number to tie the Senate and give the Vice President the deciding vote.

But the indications are that, when the Senate meets in extra session in March, there will be at least two seats unfilled, and both of those on the Democratic side. The complications in Delaware make it quite apparent that none of the three claimants for the seat belonging to that state, and now vacant, will be recognized or admitted to a seat, without at least a thorough investigation of the credentials of the rival claimants. Besides the Democratic free silver claimant, who was chosen by the Democrats of the legislature, and Addicks, who is to come as the claimant from the "rump" legislature organized by himself, Mr. Dupont still stands in the attitude of a contestant for the seat, and a strong effort will be made to open his case. This makes it probable that the Delaware seat will remain vacant for weeks, and probably months, as it has done during all of the present Congress.

The Florida seat is likely to be vacant until the legislature in that state, which meets in April, elects a successor to Senator Call. With two seats vacant, leaving but 88 men in the Senate, the Republicans, with 44 of them, will have precisely one-half of the entire membership, and the Vice President to cast the deciding vote in case of a tie. Thus indications are apparently brightening so far as Republican control of the Senate is concerned.

The Senators whose terms expire on March 4, and the names of those who succeed them, as at present determined, are as follows:

Retiring Senators.	Successors.
Allison, Ia., Rep.	Allison, Rep.
Blackburn, Ky., Dem.	.....
Blanchard, La., Dem.	McEnery, Dem.
Brice, Ohio, Dem.	Foraker, Rep.
Brown, Utah, Silver.	.....
Call, Fla., Dem.	.....
Cameron, Pa., Rep.	Penrose, Rep.
Dubois, Ida., Silver.	.....
Gallinger, N. H., Rep.	Gallinger, Rep.
Gibson, Md., Dem.	Wellington, Rep.
Gordon, Ga., Dem.	Clay, Dem.
Hansbrough, N. D., Rep.	Hansbrough, Rep.
Hill, N. Y., Dem.	Platt, Rep.
Irby, S. C., Dem.	Earle, Dem.
Jones, Ark., Dem.	Jones, Dem.
Jones, Nev., Pop.	Jones, Pop.
Kyle, S. D., Pop.	.....
Mitchell, Ore., Rep.	.....
Morrill, Vt., Rep.	Morrill, Rep.
Palmer, Ill., Dem.	Mason, Rep.
Peffer, Kas., Pop.	Harris, Pop.
Perkins, Cal., Rep.	Perkins, Rep.
Platt, Conn., Rep.	Platt, Rep.
Pritchard, N. C., Rep.	Pritchard, Rep.
Pugh, Ala., Dem.	Pettus, Dem.
Squire, Wash., Silver.	.....
Teller, Col., Silver.	Teller, Silver.
Vest, Mo., Dem.	Vest, Dem.
Vilas, Wis., Dem.	Spooner, Rep.
Voorhees, Ind., Dem.	Mairbanks, Rep.
Delaware seat vacant.	

Senator Mitchell, of Oregon, whose successor is without name in the above list, is believed likely to succeed himself. Senator Blanchard's successor, Mr. McEnery, although a Democrat, is reported as saying that he will support a reasonable Republican tariff measure as he is a protectionist in sentiment.

The silver Republican Senators generally also are protectionists, and it is probable that they will not oppose a Republican tariff measure unless the silver question becomes complicated with it. Those who are in close touch with them express the opinion that they will probably support and certainly will not oppose or obstruct a Republican tariff measure. There will be at least one additional seat to be filled in the United States Senate, and that is the one now occupied by Senator Sherman. He will be a Republican, a protectionist, and a sound money man, as every one knows.

Unsatisfactory as it may be to have the Senate so close, in view of the important legislation which needs enactment, it must so remain for two years. Then there is every prospect of a good working majority for the Republicans in that body. However, it is reasonably certain that the new tariff bill will get through, and probably all other legislation except whatever may come up in the way of a currency reform bill. The silver clique in the Senate will undoubtedly make a desperate effort to "hold up" any bill by putting a free silver rider on it.

W. E. MASON FOR SENATOR.

William E. Mason, the Republicans of Illinois and of the country, and the next administration is to be congratulated over the selection made on the 19th by the Republican caucus of the Illinois legislature.

Mr. Mason is a worthy man to occupy a seat in the United States Senate. In season and out of season he has given his time and his great talents to the promulgation of Republican principles. In defeat he never sulked and victory never made him a party boss. He has always been close to the people, and his selection is a victory for the people. His experience in public life, his knowledge of men and affairs, his ripe judgment—all fit him to sit in the highest legislative body of the Republic.

It is all the more gratifying that a poor man, he triumphed over a powerful and corrupt political machine. Madden and Lorimer deserved defeat. They represented the very worst side of Chicago politics. The success of either would have been humiliating to every good Republican. Their defeat by such a man as Mason shows the strength of the better element in politics, and will inspire courage in Republicans of other states.

Unlike either Madden or Lorimer Mr. Mason is friendly to President-elect McKinley, and he will give the new administration his powerful support and wise counsels. There is every reason to believe he will take a front rank in the Senate.

A Massachusetts manufacturer has begun a crusade against big fees for lawyers. In a petition to the legislature he charges that the courts in upholding such fees aid and abet extortion, bar poor people from approaching the court for redress of their wrongs, and assist in establishing a privileged class. There is some foundation for his strictures, but it is far easier to point out the evil than to suggest a positive remedy.

Mr. Teller weeps no more. He will be returned to the United States Senate.

SMASHING THE TRUSTS.

At last the legislators in various states are waking up to a realization of the fact pointed out in a recent decision of the United States supreme court, that the states themselves must deal with the trusts. All that Congress can do apparently, under the restrictions imposed upon it by the national constitution, is to deal with the matter when trusts interfere with the commerce among the states. The power to deal effectively with these combinations inheres in the states themselves.

Georgia has already passed a most stringent law on this subject, which has, so far, worked well. Already Indiana's legislature is moving in the same direction, an anti-trust bill modeled upon the Georgia statute having been introduced, and the indications are that it will become a law very speedily. Minnesota has taken up the subject, and a similar bill will be introduced and pressed for passage.

The Georgia law is both radical and sweeping. It declares that all combinations and arrangements designed to advance, control or reduce the price of any producet are void and illegal. The charter of any corporation organized under the laws of Georgia found violating the anti-trust law is forfeited, and foreign corporations doing business in Georgia which violate the law may be ousted by proceedings instituted by the attorney general.

The trusts doing business in that state have made haste to avoid incurring the heavy penalties for its violation by cancelling all the conditions they had imposed upon dealers. The American tobacco trust, the match trust, the coffee trust, and a number of other trusts notified the jobbers and merchants throughout the state that the contracts subsisting between them and the several trusts had become illegal and could no longer be considered by either party.

The question, however, arises right here, whether this ready acquiescence is not because these trusts are in such absolute possession of the field that such contracts are not necessary to enable them to maintain control of the Georgia markets. Were the law really operating to injure them, is it not reasonable to suppose that they would have waited, have allowed the attorney general to begin operations against them in the courts, and have endeavored to have the law annulled because of unconstitutionality?

A SINGULAR DECISION.

United States Judge Locke, of Florida, has sustained a demurrer of the defense in the case of the vessel Three Friends, which is in effect a decision that Cuban filibusters cannot be proceeded against because the Cuban insurgents are not recognized as a people or body politic.

The libel of the vessel was drawn under the neutrality laws, which she was charged with violating. The section of the United States statutes under which the case was brought is as follows:

Sec. 5283.—Every person who, within the limits of the United States, fits out and arms, or attempts to fit and arm, or procures to be fitted out and armed, or knowingly is concerned in the furnishing, fitting out or arming of any vessel, with intent that such vessel shall be employed in the service of any foreign prince or state, or any colony, district or people, to cruise or commit hostilities against the subjects, citizens or property of any foreign prince or state or of any colony, district or people, with whom the United States are at peace, etc., shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, etc.

It is clear that, if this section has any meaning whatever, it applies fully to the fitting out of filibustering expeditions in this country against Spanish rule in Cuba. But Judge Locke holds that as the Cuban insurgents have not been recognized in any way by the United States government they constitute neither a "people" nor a "body politic," so far as this country is concerned; and that, therefore the law against fitting out armed expeditions to aid them do not apply.

The importance of this decision can hardly be overestimated, if it be not overruled by the higher court. Under it men can be openly enlisted for the Cuban service; arms and munitions of war can be sent openly, without interference by the United States government. In point of fact the law is made a nullity.

While the decision of Judge Locke may be technically correct there is no doubt it is repugnant to the intent and spirit of the above-quoted statute. Still to the lay mind, unused to legal subtleties, the question arises, if the Cuban insurgents are not "people," what are they? They are certainly men, and men are collectively "people." It seems reasonable to anticipate that the circuit court at New Orleans will promptly overrule Judge Locke's view; or, if it does not, it is certain that the supreme court of the United States will do so.

It might be well for Congress to amend that section by re-wording it so that this point cannot be raised; for it covers filibustering against any other nation, as well as Spain.

RAILWAY RECEIVERSHIPS.

Receiverships for the smaller and struggling of our railways are frequent events at present. The amount of the indebtedness of all the routes for which applications have been made is large, has been large for many years. To carry such a burden is not easy when business is active, and extremely difficult as soon as earnings fall off. The companies are not exactly in the position of the business man who cannot get his notes renewed. They are a little better off than he. A better comparison is with a manufacturer who has no income coming in, and who would not be better off if he could borrow freely, since he cannot use the funds to move his goods in a stagnant market. Some large railroads also are showing that they feel the existing depression. But the improvement in the iron trade is a hopeful sign. Its condition has long been recognized as the barometer of general business, and with the increase in general trade which is now beginning to appear, the time of stress for the railways will pass away.

The supreme court of the United States has rendered an important decision in reference to the state dispensary liquor law of South Carolina. Those provisions of the law which forbid citizens of the state importing liquors into the state for their own use, are declared to be in contravention of the interstate commerce clause of the national constitution and therefore invalid. This point of overlapping of national and state jurisdiction has brought several schemes of state legislation to grief before this.

For a Popocratic body the Kansas legislature did better than anybody expected. It has retired Peffer. His successor is to be a Mr. Harris.

THE BLACK DEATH.

The bubonic plague which is raging in Bombay, and from which the native population is dying by thousands, is the same disease which was known as the Black Death in Europe, in the Middle Ages.

In the fourteenth century this pestilence swept over England, destroying 100,000 people in the city of London alone, and so depopulating the country districts as to permanently alter the conditions of industrial life in England for a century. The same disease recurred in London in 1665, and again slew its thousands in the English metropolis. In 1720, nearly half the inhabitants of Marseilles fell before it.

The bubonic plague is a filth disease. It attacks the poor, crowded together in filthy surroundings, and not well fed. The introduction of sewerage, and the improvements in modern civilization, have prevented the spread of this disease into Europe for many years, but it has raged with its old-time destructiveness among the swarming population and over-abundant filth of Oriental cities.

In 1830, Bagdad suffered a visitation, the people dying at the rate of 2,000 per day. A Calcutta paper enumerates its Asiatic outbreaks during recent years. It appeared on the banks of the Euphrates in 1867 and 1873, in Persian Kurdistan in 1871, in Bagdad in 1877, and in Hong Kong a few years ago, not to speak of its more terrible devastations within the Celestial Empire. This journal concludes that it has its endemic foci in China and the Euphrates valley, just as cholera has an endemic focus in in the delta of the Ganges; and that it ranges chiefly along a zone of Asia from the twentieth to the fortieth degree of north latitude.

The present outbreak in Bombay finds its most numerous victims among the poorest and worst-fed of the population. Its first appearance was in the most squalid quarter of the city, and it has found comparatively few victims among the Europeans and wealthier natives. The Parsees, being better fed, suffer less than the poorer classes; the Eurasians, whose standard of living is still higher, suffer still less, while the Europeans furnish the fewest victims in proportion to their number.

Terrible as is the scourge in Bombay, the authorities are fighting it by a wholesale cleaning up of the city, on a scale which was impossible in any city of medieval Europe; and the pure water supply, brought by modern engineering works from distant sources, is a most important ally in the work of combating its ravages. Calcutta and other Indian cities which have a modern water supply and good sewerage, have so far been able to defend themselves from the plague; and, even should they be attacked, they will be able to keep the outbreak within manageable compass. It can not exist where cleanliness prevails, and pure water and abundant food are obtainable.

LAST YEAR'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The one thing above all others which shows the return of better times to this country is the comparison of exports and imports of 1896 with the previous year. In 1895 the exports of merchandise exceeded in value the imports by $23,190,789. The real value was less than this difference for under existing tariff laws the value of imports is greater than is shown by the figures of the treasury department.

In 1896 the value of domestic exports reached a total of $1,005,878,417, an increase over 1895 of $181,000,000. The value of imports decreased during the same period more than $121,000,000. These figures show that while we sold more merchandise abroad our foreign bills were greatly decreased. The margin in favor of Uncle Sam was $325,922,184 greater in 1896 than in the previous year.

This is a matter of interest to every American citizen. It means that we are living more within ourselves; that the flow of gold is to this country instead of out of it; that there is more money in the great business centers of the United States; that the merchants of America are benefitted and that the golden stream finds its way into every avenue of trade.

It means better times for American labor, increased business, more money, easier to pay debts and a solid foundation for returning prosperity. These figures mean much to the United States.

ALASKAN GOLD FIELDS.

The Director of the United States Geological Survey, who has just made a highly important report to Congress affirming the existence of an enormous gold belt in Alaska, should present the best of information as to the mooted question which he was sent into those regions to solve. His report has already been referred to at some length in the Pacific coast papers, though precise details of location have been wanting. It is supposed that Congress will be placed in full possession of all the desirable data, and that these data will immediately be made public.

If it is true that Alaska is the rich mineral region that it is rumored to be and if the official report is all that it ought to be, there will at once be a sensational outcome to the investigation. Gold is now sought by mankind with as much avidity as ever. As plenty of evidence has been afforded of this fact in the case of South Africa, no one can doubt that the effort required to obtain it in Alaska, despite the inclement climate, will be represented by a great manifestation of adventurous enterprise. Capital will be forthcoming to work the fields, and to make the region an outpost, at least, of civilization.

CABOT'S LANDFALL.

On June 24, 1497, at sunrise, John Cabot, commanding an English ship, sighted land, either off Cape Breton, Newfoundland, or off the coast of Labrador. The exact spot is not known. But it was assumed that it was the mainland, and that Cabot and his men were the first Europeans to set eyes upon the continent of America. By virtue of this supposition, England claimed title to North America, and this claim was the basis of all English grants.

Our Canadian brethren, still owing allegiance to the "meteor flag" of England, propose to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Cabot's discovery in an appropriate manner. Halifax will be its scene, and there is no reason why we of the United States should not interest ourselves in the function, and take part in doing honor to the old Venetian, Cabot, who thus gave a new empire to England.

SHERMAN'S SUCCESSOR.

The succession to the Senatorial seat from Ohio made vacant by Mr. Sherman's advance to a Cabinet position is a godsend to the Democratic newspapers, which are making the most of it. They are filling their columns, day by day, with all sorts of speculations. The plan of action is very simple—merely to consider, one by one, each alternative course open to the Governor, and each prominent Republican who might be considered a possibility, and to discuss each in turn as a guess.

The facts are very plain. The Governor may appoint some one to serve until the general assembly meets one year hence, or he may call the legislature in special session to fill the vacancy.

He will not do the latter. That much is certain. He will appoint. But he will not do so until Senator Sherman resigns, which will not be until close upon March 4.

Enormous pressure is being brought to bear upon him to appoint Mark Hanna. What he will finally do is not decided. Governor Bushnell has not made up his mind. At present the indications point to some one else than Mr. Hanna—possibly Lieutenant Governor Jones, of Youngstown.

That is really all there is in the situation.

Detroit citizens are trying to make Mr. Pingree let go of the mayor's office. They are afraid, however, to appeal the case to the governor.

The Kansas legislature is meeting expectations. A bill has been introduced making it unlawful to own land.

Don't be afraid of the Bombay plague just now. No filth disease can stand zero weather.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The defeat of the Republican machine in the Senatorial contest in Illinois is gratifying. Alderman Madden, of Chicago, who was put forward by the less reputable element in the party—the bosses and their leaders—was compelled by the force of adverse public sentiment to retire from the field before the balloting in caucus began, and his supporters found themselves unequal to the task of providing another candidate of the same unsuitable character. Ex-Congressman Mason, the successful candidate, seems to be as satisfactory a candidate as the legislature could have been expected to choose in view of the existing circumstances, though it is pretty evident that he will not prove as forceful a Senator as his predecessor. Indeed, Senator Palmer, despite his advanced age, is about the only Illinois man who has attracted much attention in the Senate during recent years by reason of his good judgment and ability. An interesting fact about the election of Mr. Mason is that the machine men of Chicago rallied to his support at the last, rather than have the nomination go away from that city. Great is local pride in the metropolis of the West.

Mr. Teller's re-election to the Senate at Denver recalls his defiant leave-taking of the St. Louis convention in June. Doubtless he had no expectation at that time that the delegates assembled to choose a Presidential candidate and enunciate a set of party principles, would accede to his demands in behalf of the free silverites, but he understood very thoroughly the condition of public sentiment in Colorado. He knew that old party lines would prove of little significance there this year, and that his defection from the Republican ranks would not injure him with the great majority of his fellow-voters, whether they were Republicans or not. Now he has been elected to his old seat in the Senate with practical unanimity, and his reputation for political shrewdness, at any rate, remains unimpaired.

Delaware is making great strides in political sensationalism just now. The new senator chosen by the Democrats is neither a Bayard nor a Saulsbury, but a man of the people and less of a disreputable politician than Addicks. It is also noteworthy that he is a free silver man, being the first person elected from an Eastern state which did not enter the Confederacy whose views are in agreement with Mr. Bryan's. But it is somewhat doubtful if Gen. Kenney will be allowed to take his seat at Washington, and Delaware may be responsible for more sensationalism in that locality than it has developed at home if Du Pont, Addicks and he all present themselves to the Senate together on March fourth.

The general tenor of the remarks and questions of the members of the Senate committee when Secretary Olney made his argument for the ratification of the arbitration treaty was in harmony with all the other indications as to the immediate fate of that measure, and we may consider that it is practically settled that it will not be ratified during the present session. Ultimately, however, it will no doubt, perhaps with its text somewhat modified, secure the necessary sanction; and Secretary Olney need not fear that he will be deprived of the just measure of credit belonging to him in connection with its negotiation, either because others before him have favored the same plan without being able to accomplish anything practical or because others after him may have, in some degree, to complete his work.

The immigration bill as it finally emerged from the conference committee provides that all immigrants between the ages of sixteen and fifty shall be able to read and write the English or some other language, the immigrants themselves being permitted to designate the language in which the test shall be made. The employment of aliens is prohibited who habitually come and go between this country and their own. The measure in its present shape is likely to pass. It certainly ought to, since it is non-partisan, fair and conservative of the common welfare. The opposition which it encountered lacked a solid basis. It was zealous and unreasonable. It proceeded on the theory that everything was due to the immigrants and nothing to the United States—a strang reversal of the admonition that charity begins at home.

The special Senate committee which has been conducting an inquiry upon the proposition to abolish the tax on alcohol used in the arts is said to have practically reached decision in favor of the plan, although no action is likely to be taken until the next Congress assembles. The more the question is studied the more apparent it becomes that it is alike unjust and foolish for this government to compel manufacturers to pay more than 1,000 per cent advance on so essential a material. The abolition of this tax would be of benefit to the manufacturer and his employes.

The initial steps having been taken by the city council of Chicago toward the inclusion of Cook county entire within the municipal limits, it is fair to suppose that the scheme will be carried through at no distant day. The people of Chicago and the rest of the state are used to these annexation processses, and this latest plan will not strike them as particularly novel or startling. Nor is it to be condemned at first thought as a mere device for increasing the population of the city, though it will add about 300,000 to the present number of inhabitants. By taking in the great tracts of territory on the outskirts from time to time, the municipality is enabled to plan wisely and in a farsighted way for its future growth. It is not so likely to expand piecmeal and in indefinite fashion, though there are people who prefer a town whose growth has been haphazard and picturesque to one in which symmetry and geometrical exactness have been constantly consulted.

The Populistic plan to have the national government engage in various business enterprises would certainly not work well if applied to the book publishing business. It is now estimated that the cost to the government of preparing and publishing the great official history of the war has already reached $2,334,328, and will amount to fully $3,000,000 before the work is completed. On the other hand, the receipts from the sale of the books has amounted to only $60,154. If the government should engage in railroading, telegraphing, grain buying and other forms of business, as the Populists suggest, and should conduct such enterprises according to the same general methods, the national deficit would be something enormous in less than a year's time.

The Leadville miners are a determined lot, or they would have given in long ago. They have established a perfect strike in nearly all the mines in the city, and not even the presence of the troops, who have been living off the county for many months, has enabled the operators to obtain the men they require to work the levels. The mine owners are equally obstinate and refuse to yield to the terms for which the strikers have held out. Although the county will have to appropriate over $3,000,000 for the maintenance of the troops during the period they have been in camp, its officials and the great body of the citizens behind them, preserve a fixed determination to let things run along as they are, rather than to assist the miners by calling for the withdrawal of the military. All together, the conditions at Leadville are remarkable in the history of American strikes. The worst development which has yet occurred was that reported a few days ago. The mine operators, tired of paying for the removal of the water from the mines without earnings, have in some cases begun to pull their pumps. That means that some of the largest and most profitable workings will shortly be beyond preservation, and that Leadville will lose the chance of ever, perhaps, being as prosperous in the future as it was a year ago.

The apprehension that national pride would cause Venezuela to upset the agreement for a settlement of the boundary dispute by insisting upon the appointment of a representative on the arbitration tribunal has been happily removed. It is true that Venezuela held out for a representative, but that nation was not so foolish as to insist that its commissioner be a Venezuelan. By consenting to appoint an American it practically left the agreement just as it was originally made. The arbitration court will consist, therefore, of two American and two English judges, with a fifth member to be chosen either by these four or by the king of Norway and Sweden. National pride can sometimes be carried too far, but luckily this was not the case in the present instance.

The question has been raised whether a foreign-born citizen is eligible for appointment to the Cabinet. No such person, it is pointed out, can become President, and yet the succession law of 1887 provides that the members of the President's council of advisers shall follow him in rotation in the event of a sudden succession of disabilities or removals. But it is forgotten that the law of 1887 distinctly guards against the accession of any officer who is not eligible to the Presidency under the Constitution. If the President dies, resigns, or becomes disqualified for any reason, the Vice President takes his place, and in the event of his death or disqualification the succession passes to the Secretary of State, and so on through the Cabinet. If any officer in line of promotion is a foreign-born citizen the succession merely skips him to the next in order.

The sultan of Turkey can stand a good deal of prodding. He has agreed to certain reforms, but every one must be wrung from his unwilling hands. The Porte is still playing its game of floating on the comparatively placid water caused by the opposing action of the diverse currents of European interests. England and Italy favor armed coercion at once. Popular sentiment in those countries hastens such a demand. But Russia, which is acting as commander of the allied forces, favors giving the Turk more time, and the kaiser, perhaps from jealousy of England and perhaps because he respects the "divine right" of rulers, objects to any hustling at Constantinople. It is hard to drive a balky animal when a half dozen teamsters are disputing about methods.

The news of the sinking of one Spanish gunboat and the whipping of another by the Cubans is confirmed. This is the first naval victory that the insurgents have scored, but it is of a nature to strike terror to the foe. If the Spanish war ships can be destroyed by torpedoes placed or fired from the shore, the chance of maintaining a naval espionage of the island is much decreased. If the Cubans can keep a few ports open for the reception of munitions of war, their chances of ultimate victory will be greatly increased.

The departure of the gunboat Machias from Canton for Bangkok, to inquire into the cause and nature of the trouble between our consul at the latter city and the Siamese soldiers who injured him, is a prompt measure. But it is proper to consider why it is that the government is capable of giving such ready attention to a little difficulty in such a faraway locality. A few years ago, before we had a new navy, it would have taken a special expedition to have brought a request for an explanation or satisfaction to the attention of the Siamese authorities. The Coreans attacked and massacred the crew of an American vessel in 1866, and were not compelled to give redress until 1871. Our ships on the China station were always fairly numerous, but they did not possess the qualities of first-class fighting craft even for those waters. It took a whole expedition to punish the Formosan bandits for killing an American no earlier than in 1876. But with the Machias, which can easily pass the bar at the mouth of the Menam river, we have a powerful little steamship which can, if necessary, bring the Bangkok court to terms with the greatest ease.

The foreign mails bring fuller details of the result of the quinquennial census in France, taken on the 29th of March, 1896. It appears that France had at that date 38,518,975 inhabitants—an increase of 175,027 as compared with the year 1891, and of 299,072 as compared with 1886. While allowing for an increase of emigration to French colonies, particularly Algeria, and an increase in colonial garrisons, the report acknowledges that the population is almost stationary. There is an increase in 24 departments and a decrease in 63 departments. The decrase is, of course, in the agricultural districts, but Brittany is, as usual, an exception. Paris has now 2,536,000 inhabitants, an increase of 88,000; Lyons, 466,000, an increase of 26,000; Marseilles, which is steadily creeping up to Lyons, 442,000, an increase of 38,000; Lille, 216,000, an increase of 15,000; and Toulon, 95,000, an increase of 17,000. Altogether the towns having more than 30,000 people present an aggregate increase of 327,000, but in 1891 that increase was 362,000. The number of foreigners, owing partly to easier or compulsory naturalization, partly to the dead-set against foreign workmen, is slightly declining. It is now 1,027,000 as compared with 1,101,000 in 1891, and 1,115,000 in 1886. The fear, therefore, which was entertained some years ago that the million of foreigners would double every twenty or thirty years is unfounded.

Thos. Slater's offer on page 3 is a beacon of hope to all men.

A WEDDING TRIP.

Deacon Fowler—"I yerred yo' tuck er trip aftah de weddin', Misto Slippery."

Slippery Elm—"Yessin deed, we fell down de church steps and well nigh broke our necks, sah."

—Copyrighted.

SHERMAN'S DESK.

Now that Senator Sherman is going out of the Senate there is no harm in telling that his seat will be occupied by Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts.

It may not, perhaps, be known that when a new Senator is assigned to one of the back rows of the Senate desks, he immediately begins to scheme how to secure a position where he can more easily be seen by the presiding officer. There is no regular method of selection, and the first Senator who files his claim for a seat is the one who gets it. It has been frequently the case that upon the sudden death of a Senator whose seat was on the end of an aisle, or otherwise favorably located, a dozen private secretaries would be at the office of the sergeant-at-arms with claims for his seat, and that, too, even before the public generally knew of the Senator's demise.

Well, when Lodge came back from Canton some time ago he had learned, among other things, that Senator Sherman was to go into the Cabinet. Forsooth with the Massachusetts Senator filed his claim for Sherman's seat. He utilized his advance tip from the President-elect to some purpose.

From Canton, also, at a later day, returned Thurston, of Nebraska. He had learned, too, of Sherman's prospective promotion, and he laid envious eyes on the seat to be vacated. He found out, when he put in his claim, that he had been anticipated, and he did the next best thing. He filed a notice for Lodge's seat, and he will get it.

There is some little cold-bloodedness about this scramble for eligible places. Already half a dozen Senators, who shall be nameless, have served notice that they want the very excellent seat of Senator Dubois, on the middle aisle, in full view of the Vice President's desk and of the galleries. They are discounting his defeat, but if he gets back it will be interesting for him to know of his colleagues who hoped to profit by his retirement.—Washington Post.

SOME LATE NEW THINGS.

The combination of a water conductor and lightning rod has recently been patented.

The use of electric push buttons in connection with the floor of a building was the subject of a recent patent.

A new "merry-go-round" has double decks, the horses and cars being arranged in the usual form.

A recently patented combination wagon for use on street car tracks has a snow plow, sweeper, scraper and sprinkler all in one.

A new dustpan has an upright wire handle attached to it in such a manner as to be readily grasped for use, the handle being about three feet long.

To overcome dead centers in large engines a newly patented device consists of a lever attached to the floor near the fly wheel and a grip to engage the wheel rim to turn it past the center.

A newly patented neckyoke for horses is shaped like a triangle and has a circular opening to receive the wagon tongue and two slots for the collar straps on the horses.

A new package carrier for bicycles consists of two metal strips clamped on the handle bar and having slots in the ends to receive straps and eyelets arranged along the sides for strings.

To increase the efficacy of a boat propeller a Californian has changed the shape of the blades so that the front edges are zigzag shape, the grooves in the blade decreasing in depth until they reach the rear edge, which is straight.

A marine velocipede just out consists of a cigar-shaped cylinder, having a keel and rudder like a boat, above which are arranged the pedals, seat and handlebars of a bicycle, the turning of the pedals revolving the cigar-shaped cylinder.

To close the slit in ladies' skirts a newly patented device has two flat metal pieces hinged at one end and designed to spring together at the other end, the two pieces being attached together by means of wire springs.

TOLD OF FAMOUS MEN.

Richard Wagner, as a student, was extremely egotistic. He usually said "It is" or "It is not," instead of "I think" or "I believe." One of his phrases was "Richard Wagner says so; that is sufficient." Another conclusive phrase was: "You think; I know."

Voltaire and Piron were enemies. To their embarrassment they met one day at the country house of a friend. Piron picked up early, went to Voltaire's door and wrote upon it the word "Rogue." At breakfast Voltaire smilingly said to him: "I thank you for showing your interest in my welfare by leaving your card at my door this morning."

The late Henry O. Houghton, the publisher, said that when in England he was asked where he lived. Near Boston," he replied. "Ah! you probably know some friends of mine who live near Boston." "Where do they live?" "In Atlanta," was the reply. This is of a piece with the Frenchman who wrote that a company had been formed for laying a transatlantic cable, and that it was thought Atlantic would be made the American terminus.

Coleridge, the poet, was an awkward horseman. One riding along the turnpike road in the county of Durham he was observed by a man who had been watching the rider. "I say, young man, did you meet a tailor on the road?" "Yes," replied the poet, whose middle name was Taylor, "I did, and he told me if I went a little farther I should meet a goose."

Prof. Blackie was once staying at Tynemouth. Before retiring to rest he informed his host that he had two requests to make first, that they would allow his bedroom door to stand wide open, and, second, that they were not to be alarmed should they hear him singing in the middle of the night, for when he could not fall asleep he would Sommus with a song. Accordingly at 2 o'clock in the morning the old professor was heard singing in strong, cheery tones, "Scots wha has wi' Wallace bled," like a veritable Highlander on the warpath. And again, in the stillness of the night he sung out, "Green grow the rushes, O." The last lines were sung in more subdued tones, and sleep came to him ere he finished his song.

SINGULAR SIGNS.

There is a sign in front of a Georgetown (Md.) store that reads as follows: "Born with a brain within a barrin I can kure every kind of misery in a short time with only the best erbs to be used."

A store in Chicago announces: "Pickles and New York papers."

A store in a Georgia village has a sign reading: "Ax handles, ink, pens and cheese."

Philadelphia has a sign reading "Ho Made Pies," and a barber shop in the same city bears this inscription on its window: "G. Washington Smith, tonsorial abattoir."

A western Massachusetts farmer recently displayed this notice: "Notis—know owes is alloud in thes medders, eny man or women lettin' thar kows run the rode wot gits into my medders aforesaid shall have his tail cut off by me. Obadiah Rogers."

CURRENT EVENTS.

Icebergs sometimes last for 200 years.

Tea is gathered from the plant four times a year.

The British mint coins 25 tons of pennies every year.

Kangaroo farming is to be an established institution in Australia.

There are said to be 100,000 lilies in full bloom in a field in Bermuda.

The Queen Regent of Spain smokes more than a dozen cigarettes a day.

About 1,000 fishing boats engaged around the British coast are named Mary.

Consumption is more prevalent in Ireland than in either England or Wales.

Men with gray and blue eyes are usually better marksmen than those with dark eyes.

Spain has a population of 17,500,000 of which number 11,000,000 cannot read or write.

An African missionary reports that he has been able to make almost all of his journeys on his bicycle.

The people of the United States read and support as many newspapers as England, France and Germany combined.

The imports of English coal into Hamburg have been growing more rapidly than the receipts of German coal at that great center.

The eruption of Etna has entirely destroyed the chestnut woods on the southern slopes, the trees being devastated by the lava.

The orange was originally a pear-shaped fruit about the size of a common wild cherry. Its evolution is due to 1,200 years of cultivation.

It is said that the Eskimo alphabet has only five characters; that the language itself is not very difficult; but it is the only one the Eskimo ever learns.

The speaker of the House of Commons receives a salary of $23,000 a year, and when he retires he is raised to the peerage with an annual pension of $20,000.

Switzerland, which has just elected a new Radical president, was the first republic of record in Northern Europe. It existed in the first century before Christ.

Joh

Publishers' Column.

WALTHAM AND ELGIN WATCHES.

Some months ago, after supplying our readers several thousand good watches at wholesale prices, we discontinued the offer. For a few weeks we shall offer the following small list much below our former prices, owing to reduction of certain grades by the manufacturer. A couple will be recognized standard watches of our former list. The others are good grades at reduced prices.

OFFER NO. 8.—BLADE SPECIAL.

Open Face or Hunting Case, Waltham or Elgin Works—Be Sure to Name Your Choice When You Order.

A $200 solid gold watch cannot be bought for $20, but the Weekly Blade offers a watch under the above number which has all the appearances and most of the good qualities of a $200 watch. You have probably never seen a watch like this and must therefore depend upon us for the description of the latest, handsomest and best watch made by the great American Waltham and Elgin factories. Time and money have been spent in bringing this particular watch to perfection. The movement (or works) contains 15 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion, patent regulator, and all improvements. The case is the thinnest filled watch case ever made. Remember, we mean that the watch when closed in the pocket is thin. The lids of the case are the usual thickness and form a perfect protection for the movement. The case is made of a plate of fine composition metal, over which two heavy sheets of 14k. gold are drawn, making a case that is for all purposes as good as gold, and warranted for 20 years. Every part which is subjected to constant wear, such as the ring, thumb piece, joint plugs, hinges, etc., is of solid gold. The works are especially recommended where the most accurate time is required. This is just the watch for doctors, lawyers, clergymen, county committeemen, and all others who wish a really first-class article. As a present it cannot be excelled. It is so thin and convenient in form that it will even make a good and satisfactory ladies' watch, and it is especially recommended for school teachers and other professional women on account of its accuracy, which is equalled by no watch made especially for ladies.

We will send this watch, open face or hunting case, as desired, by registered mail to any of our subscribers for $20.

No. 333.

No. 333 is one of the finest gentlemen's watches we have ever offered. The movements, either Waltham or Elgin, are full jeweled, and are guaranteed perfect timekeepers. The case is of the finest gold-filled, and guaranteed to wear the same as solid gold for 15 years. The price of this watch in open face is $13.50, and in hunting case, $16.50.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $20.00.

No. 15.—The works are manufactured at Waltham or Elgin. They are made of the finest materials, carefully selected. The jewels are all cut and polished in Europe, where secret processes are handed down from generation to generation. The dial is made of the finest porcelain, and the hands of blue tempered steel. The case is solid 14k. United States assay, handsomely engraved. This watch is a stem winder and setter and hunting case. We will send this watch, delivery guaranteed, for $20.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $15.

No. 16.—The works of No. 16 are the same as No. 15, but the case is gold filled, 14k., guaranteed to wear just like solid gold for 20 years. The joints, pins and parts exposed to unusual wear are solid gold. It is hunting case, and is handsomely engraved. Sent by registered mail, delivery guaranteed, for $15.

Gentlemen's Watches.

No. 200.—Solid gold 40 dwt. hunting case with Elgin or Waltham works, 18 size, 14 karat, and guaranteed timekeeper. Sent by registered mail to any part of the United States for $33.50.

No. 201.—Gold filled Elgin or Waltham watch, 18 size, open face case, guaranteed for 15 years. The movement or works contain seven jewels. This watch will be sent to any subscriber of The Blade in perfect order, delivery guaranteed, for $10.

Address all orders:

THE BLADE,
Toledo, Ohio.

FAMOUS BATTLE PICTURES.

Owing to a popular demand from our subscribers, and especially from members of the G. A. R., we have arranged with a large publisher for a quantity of pictures of the most celebrated battles of the civil war. These pictures are of a high grade, chrome colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings with wonderful accuracy. More than 100,000 have been sold during the past year at one dollar each, and our price to any person who orders a picture alone will be one dollar. But we did not get these pictures for sale or for profit. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the remitter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

NOTICE, however, that the above offer is only to those who send us $1 for subscription or renewal after this date.

Here is the list; make your selection from it:

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
Battle of Shiloh, Tenn.
Battle of Five Forks, Va.
Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn.
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge.)
Battle of Chickamauga, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and Death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
Fort Pillow Massacre, Tenn.
Battle of Wilson's Creek, Mo.
Battle of Williamsburg, Va.
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We also add a half dozen celebrated foreign battle pictures:

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Battle of Mars-La-Tour.
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Order by name of battle. Give plainly postoffice address for picture as well as The Blade. Address THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

NICKEL SILVER TABLE WARE.

It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons	$1 25
½ dozen teaspoons	85
1 dozen tablespoons or forks	2 35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1 85
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks	2 00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	1 15
½ dozen table knives	2 25
1 dozen table knives	4 25

These are made in only the one pattern, they are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

CHAMBERS'S CYCLOPAEDIA

And The Weekly Blade One Year for Three Dollars.

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CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of The Blade.

NO. 6917—LADIES' TRAINED SKIRT.

This exquisite skirt made in pink Irish poplin is comprised of eight gores and is particularly adapted to silk, satin or velvet, the pattern being adapted as well to narrow as wide material. The front and side gores fit closely over the hips while the back gores are laid in three-box plaits at the top and slightly fulled across the plaits. The fullness is held to position at the back by a strap tacked to the plaits on the under side. Below this tacking the plaits widen gradually, falling at the lower edge in soft graceful folds. The skirt may be cut with a full or demi-train, the pattern providing for both styles.

White taffeta silk forms the lining with an interlining of goodly depth of French haircloth, while the lower edge is finished with a balayeuse of dainty lace.

This skirt made in silk or satin may accompany a bodice of chiffon or mousseline-de-sole, thus completing a charming toilette, suitable for full dress occasions. A handsome skirt in this style was made with the demi-train in black satin brocade, outlined with threads of gold. It had a foot trimming of finely plaited mousseline-de-sole over yellow satin shaped in Vandyke points at the top and outlined with jet braid. Silk, satin, velvet, brocade, moire and poplin are appropriate materials for making.

To make this skirt for a lady having a 26-inch waist measure it will require 16 yards of 22-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6917, can be had in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure, and retails for thirty cents.

6917—Ladies' Trained Skirt

NO. 6912—BOYS' KNICKER SUIT.

This practical and becoming suit comprises fashionable knickerbocker, three-button cutaway coat and vest. Mixed cheviot is the material chosen, machine stitched edges providing a suitable finish. The coat is shaped by shoulder, under-arm and center-back seams, the fronts being faced and reversed at the top to form lapels that meet the collar in notches. Pockets are inserted in the fronts in regulation coat style. The comfortable sleeves, shaped by upper and under portions, are finished at cuff depth with rows of machine stitching. The vest is shaped by shoulder and under-arm seams and closes in the center-front. The back may be drawn as closely as desired at the waist by straps that are buckled in center. Neat pockets are provided and the neck is cut low, revealing a glimpse of emaculate linen and a smart tie.

The short trousers in knickerbocker style are the newest cut in boys' clothing. They are shaped by inside and outside leg seams, the closing being effected at the front on a fly. Inside bands at the top are provided with button-holes to attach to buttons on the shirt waist. Serge, tweed, flannel, corduroy and diagonal are suitable materials for making.

To make this suit for a boy 8 years of age it will require 1¾ yards of 54-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6912, is cut in sizes for boys 6, 8, 10 and 12 years of age, and retails for twenty-five cents.

6912—Boy's Knicker Suit

The stylish cape pictured here is of gray Astrakhan cloth lined with pretty two-toned silk in peacock shades. The jaunty hat is of nickel gray beaver; the wide brim and narrow bands encircling the high crown are of black velvet. On the left side is a bunch of handsome ostrich plumes.

The cape, of fashionable length, is circular in shape, a centre-back seam rendering the adjustment smooth-fitting at the neck, but widening perceptibly at the lower edge to fall in deep flutes as is the present mode. The stylish and protective collar stands high at the back, rolling over deeply in front, its outer edge forming the fashionable flare. The closing is effected invisibly in the centre-front with cleak hooks and loops. The model is admirably adapted to either light weight or the regulation cloakings in tweed, whipcord, broadcloth or covert, while for more dressy occasions, brocade, silk, satin or velvet may be employed. Astrakhan cloth or plush make exceedingly stylish top garments by the mode, requiring little if any decoration.

6920—Ladies' Cape.

To make this cape in the medium size will require one and three-quarters yards of 54-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6920, is cut for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch bust measure, and retails for thirty cents.

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

A RECITATION OF THE MERITS OF AYER'S Cherry Pectoral

would include the cure of every form of disease which affects the throat and lungs. Asthma, Croup, Bronchitis, Whooping Cough and other similar complaints have (when other medicines failed) yielded to

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

POMPEII OF TO-DAY.

It is now almost 150 years since a laborer sinking a well on the Campagna came upon some fragments of old sculpture and painted tiles. Forty years previous a peasant of Resina had made like discoveries which led to the excavation of the buried city of Herculaneum and hopes were aroused that in the buried summer resort of the Romans still greater treasures would be found the cinders and ashes that for 1,700 years had hidden them.

The work of excavation was intermittent, however, and pursued carelessly under the Bourbons. When Murat was installed as king of Naples, he infused some new life into the work, which progressed slowly, owing to the fact that later eruptions of Versuvias were occurring. As late as 1823 Miss Berry—Horace Walpole's friend—wrote: "We set out, a large party, for Pompeii. The drive of fourteen miles is very disagreeable, notwithstanding the view of the bay and the mountains around. The cinders and lava of the eruption of last October have scarcely yet been swept to the sides of the streets, but are left on the road. Outside Pompeii they are half-way up the horses' legs.

No such impediments now greet the traveler who is dropped at a not over-clean railway station by a prosaic train when he goes to Pompeii. Even to the highly classical and ultra-enthusiastic eye the first impressions of Pompeii are disappointing. Within the last few years the ministry of fine arts has been trying to clear away the heaps of cinders which obstructed the streets of the city, and has partially accomplished the feat. The first place of interest to be seen is the Basilica, supposed to have been used as a law court. The ruins of the temple of Venus are striking and the Exchange is one of the most beautiful buildings yet revealed, its central hall having been surrounded by columns of Parian marble.

Recent excavations have been going on in the amphitheater, where, it will be remembered in Bulwer-Lytton's account in his novel, games were in progress at the time of the eruption. The excavations were made to demonstrate that the loss of life at the amphitheater was less than the novelist would have us believe. The people assembled had time to make their escape to the open country and the remains of but 700 bodies were found here, most of them in such perfect state of preservation as to negative the theory that others were reduced to impalpable dust. The activity of the present government will not be relaxed till Pompeii shall have given up its last secret and in the meantime there are constantly being found treasures in marble, bronze, gold and paintings.

It is expected that the whole city will not be laid bare in less than fifty years should the government not be able to set aside a larger sum for the furtherance of the work.

TO PATIENTLY WAIT.

Do the little brown twigs complain
That they haven't a leaf to wear?
Or the grass, when the wind and rain
Pull at her matted hair?

Do the little brooks struggle and moan
When the ice has frozen their feet?
Or the moss turn gray as a stone
Because of the cold and sleet?

Do the buds that the leaves left bare
To strive with their wintry fate,
In a moment of deep despair
Destroy what they cannot create?
Oh, Nature is teaching us there
To patiently wait, and wait.

—Boston Transcript.

In Cuba.

"You find," said Gen. Weyler, "that filibustering expeditions are on the increase?"

"Decidedly, general," answered the officer, who had returned from secret service in the United States. "I am even informed that a project is now on foot to establish a regular line, with steamers sailing once a week, and that a person with a loud voice will be stationed at the dock to announce: 'This way for the regular weekly steamer of the filibustering steamship line, touching at Havana, Matanzas, Cardenas, Puerto Principe, and all points on the Cuban coast!'"

And once more, in purest Castilian, Gen. Weyler cursed his luck.—New York World.

An Unprofitable Servant.

"I have called to apply for the position of bill collector," said the sharp-nosed man who stood in the doorway. "I understood you wanted one."

"That is exactly what we want," said the business man. "The last man we had seemed to be only a bill presenter."—Indianapolis Journal.

Good morning. Have you read Thos. Slater's offer for men on page 8?

ABOUT JOHN SHERMAN.

It was 42 years ago last month that John Sherman first made his appearance in Congress, and since that time he has not been permitted to leave the public service. All these years he has spent either as a member of the National House or in the Senate, with the exception of the four years that he served as secretary of the Treasury under President Hayes. And now, after more than an average life time spent in performing public duties, this remarkable man has been offered and has accepted the premiership of the McKinley administration, and will, in March, begin along a new line of public work, for which he has fitted himself as no other man now in the public eye.

Such an active life is worth at least a glance, especially as the country and the world will hear more of it within the next few years. Mr. Sherman has a Congressional record which for continuous service exceeds that of Benton, while his career as a politician and statesman, in point of hard fought battles and results accomplished, is without a parallel in the history of the Republic.

Mr. Sherman was born at Lancaster, O., in 1823. He was the eighth of eleven children. His father, Charles Sherman, was born, educated, married and admitted to the practice of law in Connecticut. He was a reliable counsellor, and ranked high among the early lawyers of Ohio. The elder Sherman served in the Ohio legislature and on the supreme bench of the State, and his official career was a credit to himself and an honor to the commonwealth.

HON. JOHN SHERMAN.

When John Sherman was six years old his father died and the family was left with limited means. The elder Ewing took charge of William Tecumseh, and educated him for West Point. John went to Mt. Vernon, to the home of a cousin, and there he remained four years. When 12 years old he returned to Lancaster, where he attended school, and then for some time was employed on the Muskingum river improvement. It was about this time that he decided to make a little money on the side by buying salt, loading it on a scow and letting it float down the river to Cincinnati, where it brought good prices. The salt was bought and loaded and the first day the river froze the boat in solid, where it was held until spring, and then the price of salt had dropped and young Sherman found himself out of pocket.

Goes to Mansfield.

Mr. Sherman left Southern Ohio and located at Mansfield, where he studied law with his brother, Charles Sherman, and was admitted to practice in 1844. Mansfield then had less than 1,200 inhabitants, but its bar was noted all over the state. It was here that William B. Allison and Samuel J. Kirkwood began the practice of law. Here, in 1848, Mr. Sherman married Cecilia Stewart, and in 1849 built the brick house which is now his home.

And right here it is but just to Mr. Sherman to say that while he has made money and amassed a snug fortune, the beginning was made away back in the 40's, while he was practicing law at Mansfield. He had a good practice and his investments were gilt-edged. He is to-day realizing handsome returns from investments made before he entered public life.

Mr. Sherman's first appearance in national politics was in 1848, when he was a delegate to the Philadelphia convention which nominated General Taylor for president. He was secretary of that convention, and in the campaign which followed he spoke throughout Northern Ohio. The convention made Mr. Sherman secretary because, as the gentleman who made the motion said, he lived in such a strong Democratic district that he would never get an office unless it was given him. Because Schuyler Colfax was similarly situated, he was made assistant secretary.

In 1852 Mr. Sherman was a delegate at large from Ohio to the Baltimore convention. In 1855 he presided over the first Republican state convention ever held in Ohio. That convention named Salmon P. Chase as its candidate for governor. Mr. Sherman was an ardent Whig, and at once became a leader in the new party, a position which he has never relinquished during all its glorious history.

Enters Congress.

In December, 1855, when but 32 years old, Mr. Sherman took his seat in the Thirty-fourth Congress. It was at a time when the North needed safe leaders. Vital questions were agitating the country. The Missouri compromise, the Dred Scott decision, the fugitive slave law, all the preliminary problems of the great war were up for discussion. Mr. Sherman was a student, and he brought to Congress with him a mind stored with useful information and a habit of being thorough in everything he undertook. He was fitted for the work and was soon looked upon as one of the most prominent members of that body. He was appointed by Speaker Banks a member of the Kansas investigating committee to report on the border troubles. Mr. Sherman wrote the report, and on that report was fought the campaign of 1856.

Mr. Sherman was returned to the Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth Congresses. He was a candidate for speaker of the House in 1859, but was defeated, or rather withdrew after a contest lasting two months, the most notable speakership fight in the history of Congress. In all the anti-war legislation, Mr. Sherman took an active part, and he then had that strength of character and determination of purpose which has been the chief element of his success.

The biographer, P. C. Headley, tells how Lincoln and Sherman first met. It was in February, 1861, and Mr. Lincoln was in Washington to be inaugurated. Mr. Sherman called to see him at Willard's hotel. "And so you are John Sherman," said Lincoln as he inspected him from head to foot. "Well, I am taller than you, any way; let's measure," said Mr. Lincoln, and the two men backed up against each other, and sure enough Mr. Lincoln was some two inches taller than Mr. Sherman. Throughout the war Lincoln and Sherman were warm friends, and it was mainly through the efforts of Mr. Lincoln that Sherman was kept in Congress, for he was determined to resign and enter the army. Lincoln wanted him in Washington, where he could have the benefit of his counsels.

Mr. Lincoln took Mr. Chase into his cabinet, and the vacancy in the United States Senate was filled by the Ohio legislature electing John Sherman. Mr. Sherman took his seat in the United States Senate in March, 1861, and has been there ever since, with the exception of the four years Hayes was President. In the Senate he has been almost continually on the finance committee and also served on the judiciary, Pacific railroads, agriculture, foreign affairs and other committees. To every question he brought a trained mind and a judgment that was not often incorrect.

Garfield On Sherman.

What has he accomplished in the more than 40 years he has served this great country? Let the late lamented Garfield answer. Standing in the presence of the national Republican convention in 1880 in Chicago, Gen. Garfield told the people of the whole country what John Sherman had done. Here, in part, was what he said:

"I am about to present for your consideration the name of a man who began his career of public service 25 years ago, whose first duty was courageously done in the days of peril on the plains of Kansas, when the first red drops of that bloody shower began to fall which finally swelled into the deluge of war. He bravely stood by young Kansas then, and, returning to his duty in the national legislature, through all subsequent time his pathway has been marked by labors performed in every department of legislation. You ask for his monuments. I point to 25 years of national statutes. Not one great, beneficent statute has been placed in our statute books without his intelligent and powerful aid. He aided these men to formulate the laws that raised our great armies and carried us through the war. His hand was seen in the workmanship of those statutes which restored and brought back the unity and married calm of the states. His hand was in all that great legislation that created the war currency, and in a still greater work that redeemed the promises of the government, and made the currency equal to gold. And when at last called from the halls of legislation into a high executive office, he displayed that experience, intelligence, firmness and poise of character which has carried us through a stormy period of three years with one-half the public press crying 'crucify him,' and a hostile Congress seeking to prevent success; in all this he remained unmoved until victory crowned him.

"The great fiscal affairs of the nation, and the great business interests of the country he has guarded and preserved, while executing the law of resumption and effecting its object without a jar and against the false prophecies of one-half the press and all the Democracy of this continent. He has shown himself able to meet with calmness the great emergencies of the government for the past 25 years. He has trodden the perilous heights of public duty, and against all the shafts of malice has borne his breast unharmed. He has stood in the blaze of that fierce light that beats against the throne; but its fiercest ray has found no flaw in his armor, no stain on his shield."

As a Politician.

As a politician Mr. Sherman has elements of weakness as well as of strength. He is not what is termed a good mixer. He is not a poser, neither does he play to the galleries. There is nothing magnetic about the man to make him a popular leader such as were Henry Clay and James G. Blaine. Neither is he the cold, unapproachable man pictured by so many. He is sincere in his attachments to his friends and he is likewise a good hater. In politics he is not diplomatic. If he were he would never have published his memoirs. In his autobiography he attacks men high in the counsels of his party, men who could cause him no end of trouble in a political way. He is as fearless as a politician as was his brother on the field of battle.

There is a reason for Mr. Sherman being considered an austere man. For more than an average lifetime he has occupied public positions, places of trust and influence. The average man has little conception of the manner in which such an official is hounded. He is continually being approached by men with all sorts of motives and with all kinds of axes to grind. He sees the weaknesses and ambitions of mankind, and all of them want help in one way or another. The only wonder is that a man in public life for so many years is not a confirmed cynic. The truth is Mr. Sherman is a most pleasant conversationalist and any person except a beggar for favors will so find him.

As a Candidate.

But as a manipulator of political forces Mr. Sherman has few equals. He builds his political fences with care. His lieutenants are noted, not for the noise they make but for the votes they can control. His field workers are tried politicians, and it is not often that John Sherman under-estimates the strength of an opponent. Like his brother he is a good director of men.

If Mr. Sherman had been more of the policy politician he might have been President years ago, but the fact that he never hesitated to engage in warfare with men in his own party, and in all sections of the country resulted in his defeat whenever he appeared before a national convention. His party in Ohio could never be depended on to give him hearty support in a national contest. In the convention of 1880 he was a candidate, and he hoped to win when it was found to be impossible to nominate either Grant or Blaine, but his vote ranged from 90 to 97 and Garfield was named. Again in 1884 he was a candidate but Ohio wanted Blaine and Sherman could not control more than 30 votes from his own state and all these were not freely given. In 1888 he was again a candidate and was Mr. Harrison's chief competitor, receiving 229 votes on first ballot and 249 on second.

Above all things Mr. Sherman is a student. In his Mansfield home is an extensive library. In his working room is a large number of books devoted to American legislation. He has there every act of the government and every official and congressional report of any moment. All these years he has been a student of legislation and of the requirements of the country. His life has been filled with work and the country has had the benefit of his labors.

It remains to be seen how well he will meet the requirements of the domain into which he is about to enter. He is now an old man, and the conduct of the office will soon tell if his faculties are impaired. But his millions of followers believe he will prove as capable as secretary of state as in House, Senate or at the head of the Treasury Department. F. L. DUSTMAN.

Biliousness

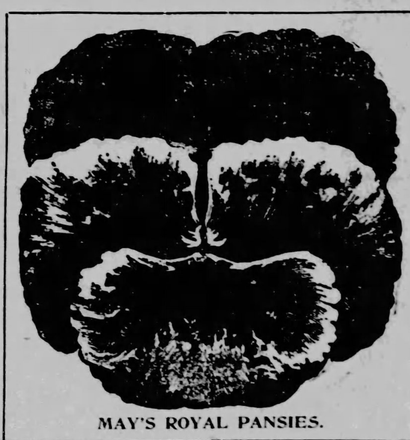
Is caused by torpid liver, which prevents digestion and permits food to ferment and putrefy in the stomach. Then follow dizziness, headache, insomnia, nervousness, and, if not relieved, bilious fever or blood poisoning. Hood's Pills rouse the liver, cure headache, dizziness, constipation. 25 cents. The only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's Pills

A SPLENDID COLLECTION OF CHOICE

Vegetable and Flower SEEDS

Absolutely Given Away To Our Subscribers.



MAY'S ROYAL PANSIES.

NORTHWEST PREMIER PEA.

By special arrangement with MESSRS. MAY & CO., ST. PAUL, MINN., we will send postpaid, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS of Vegetable and Flower Seeds to all who subscribe for the WEEKLY BLADE.

These collections are put up for the exclusive use of the WEEKLY BLADE. Many of the varieties offered are new and choice, being introduced for the first time this season, and retail at 10c, 15c, and 25c per packet. Other sorts are standard varieties which have stood the test in all sections and proven thoroughly reliable. PLEASE READ OUR OFFERS CAREFULLY.

THE FOLLOWING COLLECTIONS SENT POSTPAID:

OFFER NO. 1.
The Farm Garden.

This collection includes the standard varieties of Vegetable Seeds which are adapted to all sections of the United States. To any one sending $1 for the Weekly Blade one year we will send this collection free, post paid. This package if bought at retail would cost $1.40.

BEAN, R. P. Golden Wax	$ .10
ONION, Globe Danvers	.05
PEA, N. W. Premier	.10
TOMATO, The Acme	.05
CABBAGE, Surehead	.05
CORN, Early Minnesota	.05
CARROT, Danvers	.05
RADISH, Rosy Queen	.10
CUCUMBER, Garden Gem	.15
LETTUCE, Early Simpson	.05
TURNIP, Purple Top	.05
SQUASH, Sibley	.05
WATERMELON, Ice King	.10
PUMPKIN, Connecticut	.05
PARSNIP, Hollow Crown	.05
RADISH, Long Scarlet	.05
RUTABAGA, Shamrock	.05
MUSK MELON, Minnesota Perfection	.10
PARSLEY, Plain	.05
BEET, Market Gardener	.10
Retail price	$1.40
Packet alone to subscribers, 55c, postpaid.	

OFFER NO. 2.
Flower Garden.

To any one sending us $1.00 for a year's subscription to the Weekly Blade we will send, postpaid, the following charming collection of Flower Seeds. These are all free flowering annuals, and will produce a beautiful display of flowers during the summer months. Cultural directions on every packet. The regular retail price of this assortment is $1.30.

ASTERS, German Mixed	$ .10
PANSY, German Show	.10
NASTURTIUM, Tall Mixed	.05
POPPIES, Paeonia Mixed	.10
GAILLARDIA, Mixed	.05
GODETIAS, Giant Mixed	.10
MIGNONETTE, Sweet	.05
PETUNIA, Imperial Mixed	.10
ZINNIAS, Giant Mixed	.10
SWEET PEA, California Mixed	.10
FOUR O'CLOCKS	.05
PINKS, Double China	.05
MORNING GLORIES	.05
WIL FLOWER GARDEN, a collection of different varieties	.15
PANSY, Swanley Blue	.15
Retail price	$1.30
Packet alone to subscribers, 50c, postpaid.	

OFFER NO. 3.
Our Novelty Package.

To any one sending $1.00 for a year's subscription to the Weekly Blade we will send, postpaid, this collection free. In this assortment will be found many rare varieties of Vegetable and Flower Seeds of late introduction, some of which retail at 10c, 15c, and 25c per packet. These late introductions are vast improvements over the common sorts, and consequently more valuable. Retail price of this collection is $2.25.

PEAS, May's Sunol	$ .10
BEET, Selection, Improved, Favorite	.10
CUCUMBER, Early Prize	.10
CABBAGE, Surprise	.15
ONION, Red Wonder	.15
MUSK MELON, Pickaninny	.15
CORN, Early Windsor	.10
RADISH, Queen of Market	.10
TOMATO, Shenandoah	.15
PANSY, Star Mixed	.25
SWEET PEAS, Gold Mixed	.10
PINK, Royal Banner	.15
GIANT SWEET WILLIAM	.10
VERBENA, Mammoth Mixed	.15
NASTURTIUM, Imp. Mixed	.10
PETUNIA, Rose Queen	.10
PANSY, Harlequin	.25
Retail price	$2.25
Packet alone to subscribers, 65c, postpaid.	

OFFER NO. 4.
Our Early Kitchen Garden.

This package includes the earliest vegetables of the different classes, and is a splendid collection for a private garden. To any one sending $1.00 for the Weekly Blade one year, we will send this collection, postpaid. The regular retail price of this assortment is $1.05.

CABBAGE, Early Summer	$ .05
BEET, Early Blood	.05
PEAS, N. W. Premier	.10
LETTUCE, Early Challenge	.05
CUTTER, Early Frame	.05
TOMATO, First of All	.10
RADISH, Early White Turnip	.05
ONION, Early Barletta	.05
CORN, Golden Early	.05
CARROT, Early Horn	.05
MUSK MELON, Hackensack	.05
WATER MELON, Safeguard	.15
BEAN, Early Refugee	.05
TURNIP, Early Snowball	.05
SPINACH, Long Standing	.05
Retail price	$1.05
Packet alone to subscribers, 45c, postpaid.	

OFFER NO. 5.
Our Combination Package.

This package, as will be noticed, includes a grand assortment of both Flower and Vegetable Seeds. In some of the packets are several different varieties of the same classes, so that in most instances the seeds will produce either a varied assortment of Flowers or some choice vegetables for early, medium and late use. This collection will be sent, postpaid, to any one sending $1.00 for one year's subscription to the Weekly Blade.

21 Varieties of Vegetable Seeds.
18 Kinds of Flower Seeds.

1 PKT. MIXED TOMATOES—In this packet are the following three splendid tomatoes: Early Ruby, The Acme, Shenandoah ..... $ .15

1 PKT. STAR MIXED WATERMELONS—This packet contains seeds of the Ice King, Giant Southern, Florida Favorite ..... .15

1 PKT. PUMPKINS, MIXED—Seed of four good varieties ..... .10

1 PKT. RADISHES, MIXED—This mixture is made up of four splendid varieties ..... .10

1 PKT. LETTUCE, MIXED—A mixture of five curled and head varieties, early and late ..... .10

1 PKT. CUCUMBER, Garden Gem, the best for pickles ..... .15

1 PKT. BEET, Lightning, early turnip shaped variety ..... .10

1 PKT. PEAS, May's Midsummer, valuable for private use ..... .15

1 PKT. PANSIES, Prized Mixed, a Celebrated collection made up from the following four varieties: Snow Queen, German Show, King of Yellows, Blue Prince ..... .20

1 PKT. ASTERS, Gem Mixed—This includes Snow White and Blue Danube ..... .15

1 PKT. SWEET PEAS, English Mixed, an assortment of 10 kinds ..... .10

1 PKT. PETUNIAS, Imperial Mixed—In this packet are the two famous varieties, Moonlight and Countess of Ellesmere ..... .10

Retail price $1.55
Packet alone to subscribers, 50c, postpaid.

OFFER NO. 6—FLORAL FAVORITES. Pansies, Poppies and Sweet Peas.

The following collection we have made up of the popular floral favorites of the last few years. No one who loves flowers should fail to have a bed of Pansies, Poppies and Sweet Peas. We will mail the entire collection, postpaid, to any person sending us $1.00 for one year's subscription to the Weekly Blade.

1 PKT. SWEET PEA, Grace May, pure white, very fine ..... $ .20

1 OZ. SWEET PEA, Minnie Keepers, delicate heliotrope and lavender ..... .10

1 OZ. SWEET PEAS, Firefly, bright scarlet, showy ..... .10

1 OZ. SWEET PEAS, Captain of the Blues, rich blue ..... .10

1 OZ. SWEET PEAS, California Giant Mixed, an assortment of colors ..... .20

1 PKT. PANSY, Swanley Blue, very light blue ..... .15

1 PKT. PANSY, Faust, black ..... .10

1 PKT. PANSY, Improved Snow Queen, pure white ..... .10

1 PKT. PANSY, Ocean Spray, blue, edged white ..... .20

1 PKT. PANSY, Royal Mixed, large flowers of all colors ..... .25

1 PKT. POPPY, Danebrog, scarlet with white spots ..... .10

1 PKT. POPPY, Paeonia Flowered, mammoth blossoms ..... .10

1 PKT. POPPY, Snowdrift, large double white flowers ..... .10

Retail price $1.85
Packet alone to subscribers, 60c, postpaid.

FULL CULTURAL DIRECTIONS ON EVERY PACKET OF SEED.

ADDRESS ALL LETTERS TO

The Weekly Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

Be sure to mention number of our offer.

15% Paid In Dividends Six Months. Investment. Write for Circular. CREAM CITY INVESTMENT CO., Milwaukee, Wis.

Safety Razors FREE

FASHION'S FADS.

A blouse bodice of black velvet, covered back and front with a lattice trimming of gold cord, and turquoise beads set in at intervals, so that there is a bead at each crossing, is very effective with a wide corselet belt of black satin, a black satin collar, and plain sleeves of velvet with a small puff at the top.

The sleeve which was worn in the early part of the century is the latest model shown just at present. It is close-fitting from the wrist, where it is finished by a band to the elbow, and above this is a puff which gathers full into the armhole.

The latest idea in bodices shows a tendency to make the sides of the front and back different. A fan-shaped plaiting of satin like the skirt covers one-half of the front of an evening dress, and tulle and colored velvet are artistically combined in the others.

The fashionable fan is a veritable toy. It is so small. The Empire is the approved style in the tiniest size and it is more beautifully ornamented than ever.

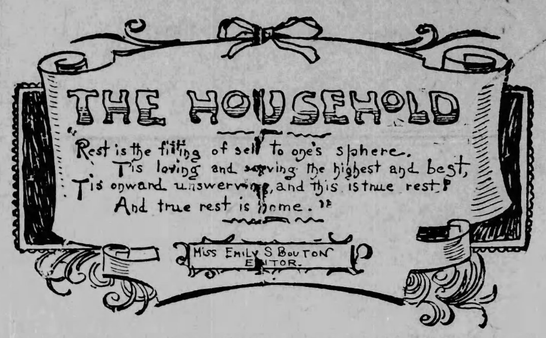
Over It.

Teacher—"Did you study this lesson?"
Pupil—"I looked over it."
Teacher—"Well, hereafter just lower your gaze a little."—Philadelphia Record.

Young men or old should not fail to read Thos. Slater's offer on page 8.

THE MISTAKE.

Who would have thought it a year ago?
How they have run—the months—just lately.
Since I stood wai



LEAVE THE PAST.

All the past things are past and over,
The tasks are done and the tears are shed;
Yesterday's errors let yesterday cover;
Yesterday's pounds which smarted and bled
Are healed with the healing which night has shed.

Yesterday is a part of forever,
Bound up in a sheaf which God holds tight,
With glad days and sad days, and bad days which never
Shall visit us more with their bloom and their blight,
Their fullness of sunshine or sorrowful night.

Let them go, since we can not relieve them,
Can not undo or can not atone;
God in his mercy receive, forgive them!
Only the new days are our own,
To-day is ours, and to-day alone!
—Selected.

TRUE TO OURSELVES

THIS IS WHAT WILL BRING HONESTY TO ALL.

Children in the Streets of New York—A Sad Condition to Be Remedied.

"Do you suppose the time will come when one can be wholly true and honest in this world of ours?"

The question was asked in all earnestness by one who was smarting under the anger of a friend, the latter having taken offense at some words of warning which were needed but unpalatable. And my answer was, that to be as nearly true and honest as we can compel ourselves to be is a duty which we owe, not only to those with whom we come in contact day by day, but equally to ourselves, unmindful of outward consequences.

"As we can compel ourselves to be! Is it not possible to be absolutely so, if we ignore the effects which such truth and honesty are sure to bring?" asked my friend.

"I think not, in this stage of our evolution," I replied, "for the simple reason that we have not yet learned ourselves to hold to what, in our heart of hearts, we know to be the truth of all being. We are not in any real sense honest to our own natures, and since the without is a reflection of the within, how can we be 'absolutely' free from untruth in all of our actions? Not until humanity rises to a higher plane than it occupies to-day, will we be able to bear the search light of truth without flinching."

A long sigh was my friend's only reply, and then silence prevailed.

My thoughts went wandering to some words of James Lane Allen's in his beautiful novel entitled Aftermath. They were these:

"And the other day you told me that I am not perfectly natural with anything but Nature. Nature is the only thing that is perfectly natural with me. When I study Nature there are no delicate or dangerous or forbidden subjects. The trees have no evasions. The weeds are honest. * * * Everything stands forth in the sincerity of its being and nature invites me to exercise the absolute liberty of my mind upon all life. * * * But after you have grown used to study Nature with absolute freedom and absolute peace, think how human life repels you. You may not investigate, you may not speak out, you may not even think, you may not even feel."

This is a beautiful expression of the power which Nature has over those who sincerely love her, and seek her companionship. Nature is always true to herself, and it is a perception of this fact which wins the world-weary to go to her solitudes for rest. All masks may be thrown away, for she invites you and me and everybody to exercise the absolute liberty of our minds upon all life.

This "absolute liberty" could not, you say, be carried into action in the world of people, for it would largely mean in the present, brutality. That is true, but it is because we fail to follow Nature's example in first being true to our own inner, better selves. Under pretence of adhering to the principles of truth and honesty, we can not safely arraign the thoughts, the motives, the actions of others, when we have not cleaned the inner houses of our own life. To be true and honest does not mean to condemn our neighbors for what seems to us wrong. It does mean self-knowledge; a courageous looking at our own faults and an earnest endeavor to sweep them away. This done, we shall not look through a glass darkly, as now when our gaze is turned wholly outward.

What we need is to be honest with ourselves, and then the shining of the inner truth will bring a freedom somewhat akin to that sincerity in Nature of which the author of Aftermath speaks so eloquently and so longingly.

In the city of New York, during the month of November and a part of December, we are told on the authority of the chief of police that 2,200 boys were arrested for misdemeanors, mostly stealing—twenty-two hundred little fellows, many of them from respectable homes. When one realizes what this means, it makes the heart almost stand still in apprehension for the future.

Three hundred and more offenders in a week in this country "of the highest civilization ever known in the world's history," as we are wont to grandly declare! Fifty boys a day in a single city arrested for committing crimes that render them amenable to the law! And these are the boys who will be citizens and voters, who will help make the laws, who will be fathers of other boys of the future! It is a condition of things which may well bring pause and set us all a-thinking. Because it is in New York does not make the matter less serious, for what is true there is likely to be true elsewhere, especially in crowded centers of population.

The chief of police attributes the trouble largely to the fact that these boys are allowed to run the streets day and night, with nothing to do, and he says what is true, that "a lot of idle boys, forced by their surroundings into companionship with really bad boys, very soon drop into evil ways and become a part of the criminal population. It is not a question of total depravity so much as of circumstances."

All of this would not be so alarming if these were mostly the homeless, or worse than homeless, boys, but they are not. Many of them are children of respectable parents, who fail to realize the importance of watchfulness over their childrens' incomings and outgoings, or the importance of compelling them to work or to study. A certain amount of labor of duties that must be performed, is the surest safeguard of youth. Absolute freedom in the control of their time and actions is almost certain to become license in mischief, and finally in evil doing.

New York is not the only place where these conditions exist. Those who have the means of knowing, say that here in Toledo are boys roaming the streets at night, whose parents are supposably intelligent, and who ought to know the dangers of such freedom. It would be better, if there is no other way, to go back to the old days of arbitrary parental discipline that held the boys as serfs until the day of their majority.

Of course, there is a better way—a best way—which lies in a greater attention to character building beginning in the child's earliest years. Free kindergartens everywhere, and compulsory attendance thereupon; later compulsory attendance upon manual training schools, and a curfew ordinance—if parents can not or wil not control their children with regard to street wandering—these will make a change in such conditions.

I believe, however, when kindergarten teaching becomes universal, there will be little need for laws of compulsion. The great importance of early impressions in correct character building will be better understood and more deeply realized by parents, and 50 boys a day arrested for petty crimes will be a thing belonging to a barbarous past. May the time come speedily.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Good works on dove-like pinions borne,
Returning from the past,
As minist'ring angels come
To bless us at the last.

OUR COZY CORNER.

OLD WINTER'S COLD MAKES HOME FIRESIDES PLEASANT.

Let Us Gather Together and Talk Matters Over—Keep Hopeful and Courageous.

This may be called a red letter day for the Cozy Corner, as several of our old time friends have remembered us with loving greetings for the New Year. It is good to again meet them and while there is always a hearty welcome for the later additions to our membership, still, we are especially happy when one who was dear to us, of yore, comes in with kindly greetings.

L. W. W., whom we have missed sadly, for many months, is with us to-day, striving with words of appreciation, and comfort to others, to hide and to overcome the grief that must be filling her own heart, while she goes bravely on with her daily home duties — duties which, every one seems to bring back to her, her sorrow more sharply than any work outside of the home could possibly do. But, as she says in her letter, "He will not leave us comfortless," and the editor is very sure that she will have most sincere sympathy from every mother who reads the Cozy Corner:

Dear C. C. Friends:—Just for a few moments, only, I come again—again, yes I think it has been a year since I held forth in the Cozy Corner list. In the interim, I have learned many things.

Poor, dear heart, Mrs. E. E. Mc L., how I feel for you. Not theoretically, but from experience. I lost my precious five-months old babe a few weeks prior to Thanksgiving, and while I was fortunate enough to have every comfort, every attention to be bestow upon my little one, the sorrow was great. Nevertheless, let us learn by heart, as the children used to say, the caption lines of our corner. Let us be cheerful, let us be courageous. There is a saying that God will not be outdone in generosity; if we generously, unselfishly do the best we can, He will not leave us comfortless. And you, "Aunt Fanny," your letter and poem was clipped out from the corner, and is placed away amid other treasure-troves by a dear friend of mine. We sat and held sweet converse about you and your heart-longings.

Owing to business complications, of a nature known only to my family, I have had to give up many things, sacrifice my wishes, and be still.

"Oh," I said, not long ago, in reflection, "for some one, some noble, strong charactered friend, to tell it—all too! You see, dear Cornerites, this love for creature—sympathy, is the unhealthy fungus of weakness, morbid thoughts, etc., with a slight malaria of selfishness in the air. No one knows this truth better than I, yet I sat hugging this misery to my bosom, and would not be comforted.

Then there came a letter from a dear one, enclosing another which contained words of such praise and approval for myself from one of the noblest, most unselfish of men one whose high opinion was worth much to me. Every word seemed like to the sword of Divine significance cutting both ways. I felt so unworthy of this brave heart's words of approval. His endurance, was deep as the ocean, truly, while I, I was "but the acorn cup," as George Eliot says, "the least little shake left me empty."

Well, truly, my call will lengthen into a genuine old fashioned visit, if I don't gather up my skirts and steal away.

On nature's page is graven deep.
"To have and love is not to keep."

Cecelia, another friend who has been absent for a long time, wishes to say a few words, and we will all be glad to hear them:

Dear Friends of the Cozy Corner:—I hope everyone that reads the verses beginning "If I Should Die To-night," will think it over, and speak kindly to all who may be kind or thoughtful of you.

I know from my own experience and the experience of those who were very dear to me, the comfort that a word of appreciation, spoken at the right time, can be. About ten years ago a family living in our neighborhood, were sadly afflicted There were nine persons in the family, all living in three small rooms. Scarlet fever broke out among the children and my father and mother, braving the danger to themselves and their own children from the contagious disease went to the home and helped to care for the sick children while they lived, saw to the hurried burial of the two who died and did all that human beings filled with pity and compassion for their suffering neighbors could do, and I speak nothing but the truth when I tell you that they were never as much as thanked, by those they helped, until both father and mother, were past needing their thanks or appreciation. At the funeral of my mother, this woman told, with tears streaming from her eyes, how much these departed friends had done for her in her time of trouble. If but the half of what she told them had been said to her friends years ago it would have been a great comfort to them.

"Charge not thyself with the weight of a year,
Child of the Master, faithful and dear.
Choose not the cross for the coming week,
For that is more than He bids thee seek.
Bend not thy arms for to-morrow's load;
Thou may'st leave that to thy gracious God.
'Daily' only He saith to thee,
'Take up thy cross and follow Me.'"

A subscriber from Iowa wishes a recipe for making a good stove polish, one that will not burn off immediately.

A subscriber from Michigan would like a recipe for making both hard and soft soap, with sal. soda, grease and soft water. Both recipes have been published in The Blade, but the subscribers have lost them. Can any one send them, or others equally as good?

B. M., your poetry is not equal to the requirements of The Blade and cannot, therefore, be used in its columns. You should study the rules of grammar and rhetoric, especially those relating to versification, and give much careful reading to the standard poets if you expect to write poetry for publication. You are too young, and not well enough informed to attempt such a thing now.

Experimenter asks of what celluloid is made, and if it is true that, as he has heard, it will burn easly and why.

Celluloid is made of paper dipped in a solution of sulphuric and nitric acid. After washing and bleaching a quantity of camphor is added and the prepared paper is passed through a roller mill. When he considers that nitro-cellulose, as this preparation is called before the addition of the camphor, is but another name for gun-cotton, our experimenter will see at once that he needs to be a little careful in his experiments with celluloid.

Ezra J. asks the editor about a linotype, and would it require much of any skill for a man to learn to use one. He has heard that it is merely a very large typewriter, used in a printing office and he says "any one can use a typewriter." True, Ezra, any one can use a linotype also if they are bright enough, but there is much knowledge required beside the mere manipulation of the key-board, and it requires a very bright, clear-headed man to be a successful operator on this machine. If you have an opportunity to visit a newspaper office where these machines are in use, do not lose your chance to see them, and I think you will then have more respect for them and for the men in charge than you seem to have now.

G. W. Halsted sends the following information for those who are troubled with chilblains, or frosted feet. First, soak the feet in as hot water as you can bear them. Then apply the following lotion once a day with a feather: Oil of origanium, 2 ozs.; turpentine, 1 oz., and camphor gum, 1 oz. Mix well.

Inquirer:—The herbs you mention—marjoram, thyme and savory—are dried and powdered before using; a small quantity only of the powder being necessary.

BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB.

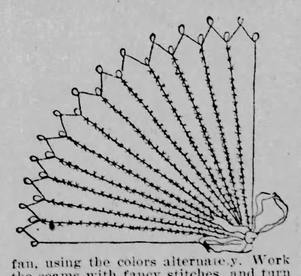
Ex-School Ma'am Describes Various Pretty Things for Our Benefit.

As Mrs. E. Rendall was the only applicant for admission this morning, the initiatory proceedings were soon over, and ex-School-ma'am took the floor, first describing a

Wall Ornament.

Take five pieces of light-blue ribbon and an equal number of pink, each piece being one-fourth of a yard long and one and one-half inches wide.

Baste them together in the shape of a



fan, using the colors alternately. Work the seams with fancy stitches, and turn the ends of the ribbons to form a point, finishing each with a chenille ball of pink or blue, the balls being also placed between the points.

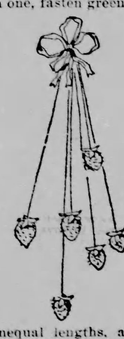
Suspend from the wall as you would any fan.

Strawberry Pincushions.

Make of red flannel six little pointed sacks, each about one inch long.

Fill with sawdust, and tie tightly at the top, hiding the tied place under a piece of bright green felt or flannel cut to represent the hull of the berry.

To each one, fasten green baby ribbon

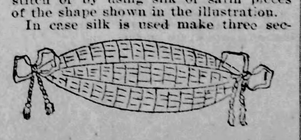


cut in unequal lengths, and tied together in a full bow at the top.

Head Rest.

A pretty head-rest for a chair may be made by crocheting six sections in shell-stitch or by using silk or satin pieces of the shape shown in the illustration.

In case silk is used make three sections of orange color, and three of blue;



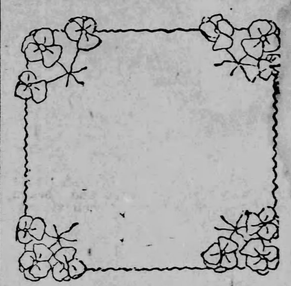
join neatly and stuff with cotton.

Tie to the chair by cords at each end the cords being finished with balls or tassels.

Doyley.

To one who does not have the time to work the more elaborate doilies, one like this may prove acceptable.

Make the square of white linen, or use a plain napkin.



Work a button-hole stitch all around it with any color of wash silk.

At the corners, follow the outline of the pansies and trim; work the inside lines of the flowers in outline stitch and it is finished.

With many thanks to the "Ex" and a cordial invitation to "come again" the editor announced that Marie would give the club another article on wood-carving next week, and the meeting adjourned.

INTERESTING ITEMS

ABOUT WHAT WOMEN ARE DOING IN THIS BUSY WORLD.

Some Are Enterprising in Business and Some Hide Away to Live in Quiet—Facts Not Fictions.

Forecast.

"'Tis going to rain!" said Baby Bo;
"The little moon dips her horn so low!"

The sky was blue next day instead,
And Baby Bo shook her curly head;
There was "something wrong with the moon," she said.

We older children, what store we lay
By our "morning red" and our "evening gray!"
For, "Now it will rain; now clear," we say.

But over our lives One spreads the sky!
When we find that we read His signs awry,
"There is something the matter with God!" we sigh.

Miss Hattie K. Miller, of Santa Barbara Cal., is probably the only woman in the world earning her living as motorman on an electric car. When electric street cars were first introduced in Santa Barbara a few months ago, she made a thorough study of the principles on which they were operated. When she applied for the situation, she answered all the requirements so well that she was appointed without hesitation. She likes the work. "It is like sitting in the saddle and guiding a gay horse in a sharp race over a wild road," she said recently to a reporter. "When I increased the motor brake I felt I had a force under my control that could out-run a horse or any moving thing. I knew I had human lives in my charge, but I felt that it required skill, not muscle, to estimate the speed of the car, to round the curves properly, and to start and stop as required." Miss Miller is said to be as good-looking as she is intelligent.—Woman's Journal.

Helen Marshall North contributes to the January Century an account of Lady Eleanor Charlotte Butler and Sara Ponsonby, who, more than a century ago, ran away from their homes and settled in the picturesque little town of Llangollen. They dressed in a strange costume that was partly made up of masculine garments. They were visited by many distinguished people, and corresponded with most of the notables of their time. The writer says:

Among their visitors the ladies also counted a certain Sir Alured, a handsome and interesting, but venerable man at this period.

Sir Alured had long known Lady Eleanor, indeed, for aught I know to the contrary, he may have been one of the five despairing swains mentioned in that lady's obituary—and once a year, usually in October, he came down to Llangollen to pay his respects to the two ladies, to whom the visit was always an occasion of consequence.

The death of Lady Eleanor was a grievous blow to the old man, He came the year following, however, but was less gay than usual; and it is even said that he neglected to bestow the usual parting kiss on his fair entertainer. The Hon. Sara promptly reminded him of the oversight, for which he at once made atonement.

Mary Carryl, the faithful servant, had died in 1809, making the first change that had occurred in the inmates of the household.

Each of the friends wished a picture of the other, but neither was willing to sit for her portrait. By some stratagem of a friend, pictures of the two together was secured when the ladies were unaware.

In June, 1829, at the age of 90, Lady Eleanor passed away; and although her friends surrounded Miss Ponsonby with every possible kindness, she refused to be comforted. She was seldom seen except by her domestics, and survived in her loneliness only eighteen months.

Now will you come Gipsying—
Gipsying with me—
Where the pleasure apples grow
Far across the sea?

Where the Spanish castles are,
Where the sky is blue
Over sun-warmed Italy—
Shall I roam with you?

Idling in those happy lands,
Could we not forget
That the earth is growing old
That the sun must set?
—Louise Chandler Moulton.

Anne Dudley Bradstreet, the first New England woman who wrote verses worthy to be called poetry, died 220 years ago in a house still standing at North Andover. She was related to three colonial governors, being the daughter of Thomas Dudley, the sister of Joseph Dudley, and the wife of Simon Bradstreet. Many well-known Massachusetts families, such as the Buckminsters, the Channings, the Higginsons, the Holmeses, and the Danas are descended from "the Sappho of New England," as she was called by people who had very vague ideas of Sappho's character, and a lot of them gathered lately at North Andover and honored her memory by the reading of many papers and the eating of several dinners.

The thought of earning a living by writing acrostics on dead babies' names would certainly never have occurred to any but a genius; and such is Miss Margaret Graham, of New York.

In speaking of her present work, Miss Graham said that she had drifted into it without any thought of making it a business, but the substantial remuneration from the grateful parents and the fast-increasing demand for her work caused her to change her mind. Several prominent undertakers in New York and other cities have attempted to arrive at a business understanding with her, but she prefers to work on independent lines.

From early childhood the knack of rhyming has seemed a part of her nature. Most of her childish requests were made in rhyme. As she grew older she rhymed for the pleasure it gave her children friends. About two years ago a young married couple in Philadelphia lost a little one, and, as Miss Graham had been fond of the child, she was requested to write a few lines, which the parents might keep in memory of their lost child. She wrote the verses extolling the graces and perfections of her little friend. The initial letters of the lines formed the baby's name.

From this beginning grew the present business, and now hardly a day passes that she does not receive a request from some bereaved father or mother for a commemorative acrostic.—New York World.

Art thou weary, tender heart?
Be glad of pain;
In sorrow sweetest things will grow
As flowers in rain.
God watches, and thou wilt have sun
When clouds their perfect work have done.
—Anon.

A clergyman assigned to preach a sermon before the students of a college picked out from his barrel a discourse of a general nature which he thought might suit the occasion. It had been prepared for a mixed audience, but he did not take the trouble to read it over. He got along famously until at the opening of the peroration he astonished the boys by reading a sentence beginning: "Now a word to such of you as are mothers."

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

This week the cook will devote the space allowed her to giving recipes that have from time to time been requested by different subscribers. First, for Mrs. Emma Leith, we give a reliable recipe for

Cheese Straws.

Work together, gradually, ½ pint of flour, 2 tablespoonfuls of butter and the unbeaten yolks of 2 eggs. Then add 2 tablespoonfuls of sweet milk, a dash of cayenne pepper and, when this is well mixed, stir in 4 tablespoonfuls of grated cheese. Make in a ball and place on ice, or in a cold place for one hour. Roll, on a floured board till ⅛ of an inch thick; brush over with beaten egg and cut in small strips. Bake in a quick oven, on tins that have been rinsed in cold water, till brown. When taken from the oven sprinkle a little fine salt over them. When cool tie in little bundles with baby ribbon of different colors and serve.

Sponge Pudding.

For Mrs. H. B. S.

Scald 1 teacupful of milk in a double boiler. Mix 1 cupful of flour and ¼ cupful of sugar in 1 cupful of cold milk and stir into the scalded milk till it thickens, then add 1 rounded tablespoonful of butter. Remove from the fire and when nearly cold add the yolks of 3 eggs ½ hour before serving, add the beaten whites of the eggs, turn into a buttered pudding pan, place this in a dish of hot water and bake in a hot oven for ½ hour. Serve at once with creamy sauce.

This is a delicious pudding, and very convenient one to make, as it can be prepared, early in the day, all but adding the whites of the eggs and baking it.

Creamy Sauce.

Cream together ¼ cupful of butter and ½ cupful of sugar, then add ½ cupful of cream and 1 teaspoonful of vanilla, or other flavoring. Beat all well and just before serving, stand the bowl containing it in a pan of water and stir till the same is creamy, but not long enough to melt the butter.

"Sam, I find you are an incorrigible story teller. Did you ever in your life tell the truth?"

"Massa, de truth am a virtue, am it not?"

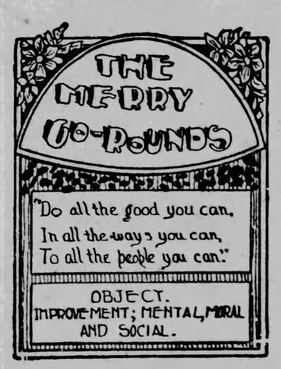
"Yes, Sam, it is; but I'm afraid you lack that virtue."

"No, sah, dat am not so. It am such a powerful good virtue, sah, an' I's got so much ob it, sah, dat I's am not goin' to let any of it escape, so's I done waste any of it, sah."—Harper's Round Table.

Mary and Martha, two little sisters, had been promoted to the dignity of a big bed, where they slept together. "I sleep on the front side," announced Mary, with an air of importance.

"And where do you sleep, Martha?" inquired the visitor.

"I sleep where Mary doesn't," replied Martha, with a rueful glance at her restless little sister.—Harper's Round Table.



You say your sphere is lowly, then remark
The violet—that modest little flower,
Which you must search to find in leafy bower.
So small, so fragile, yet its perfume fills
The woodland nook with fragrance.

So may you, though unseen by the world yield influence,
Which, carried far by many a circumstance,
Shall wield a power for sweetness and shall
The essence of thy life to many a soul
And help them in their struggle to the goal.

Miss Prudence invited one of the Cozy Corner visitors, Dale De Forest, to come in and say a helpful word to the young people of the M. G. R. and she responded in the above beautiful words, which certainly must help us, every one, and all in favor of giving "Dale" a vote of thanks for her brief call, and an invitation to come again, will please signify it by making a practical daily application of the thought she has given us.

Virginia, an invalid and an art student, has been patiently waiting since last week for an opportunity to speak in meeting and promise us, that if admitted to the M. G. R. circle she will try always to let her "light shine." She would like a correspondent who writes shorthand, Munson's system, and would also like to know what has become of J. E. H. She sympathizes with "Me" in his loneliness, as she also experiences that feeling in spite of her seven brothers and two sisters.

Photographer sends greetings and good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Scarlet Wing and to Miss Prudence (who is very much obliged for the nice things she writes about her work), and some excellent suggestions to the M. G. Rs.:

I know of nothing I could do that would be as fitting as to send a New Year greeting to the M. G. Rs., the first day of 1897. My best wishes are that this new year will be filled with rich blessings for Miss Prudence, and that she will see our circle reach that perfection. I hope our motto will be a realization to every member, and by diligence and the use of your talents you may not be rewarded as the slothful servant was, and that by toil and perseverance, may conquer every difficulty, and at last be rewarded with these priceless jewels: love, peace on earth and good will toward men.

Ethel H. Grigg:—If Miss Prudence can read characters by their writing, what an insight of our lives she must have, and perhaps, Dear M. G. Rs, this is one reason why she insists on correctness.

Would it not be a good New Year's resolution for each M. G. R. to resolve to write at least two interesting letters to our column during the year 1897. And let us resolve to use the present wisely while it is our own, to fight only noble and holy battles, and to spare ourselves, and those to whom we are dear, the humility and regret of our wrong doings and lost opportunities?

Did N. Holt, of the Wonder Column, really mean that he studied that arithmetic seventy years ago? I had fancied him to be a very brilliant young man.

N. P. Holt was in earnest when he made that statement. He is a man who has never lost his interest in acquiring useful knowledge, and who, in spite of his fourscore years, keeps in touch with the advance of the world in all things that are good and true and useful. The younger members of the M. G. R. and Wonder Column will do well to take such a man for their model, and not think, as many do, that as soon as they leave the school room that they must drop all interest in study.

Matta, W. Va., is informed that she can enter this "charmed circle" by accepting and endeavoring to live daily its motto, and by sending us occasionally an interesting letter.

Jimmie Long has this to say to Jew:

Jew, I don't think a true Christian has any desire to dance. But if he has the will to dance (no matter whether he be Christian or not) "the will constitutes the deed." For does not the Bible say: "That, while man looketh upon outward appearances, God looketh upon the heart?" (or something to that effect.) And do you suppose wicked thoughts can enter our hearts, even for an instant, unbeknown to Him?

Missouri M. G. R.'s, we have a state membership of 69. Don't sit back and wait for some one else to lead. Why be led when you can lead? Besides, you may come to "meetin" some fine day and find this tacked to the door: "Closed by the sheriff." Then you'll go away sorrowful.

That is a very good idea, that of endeavoring to lead, only you must be very certain that you have united yourself for a leader instead of a follower. Leaders are sometimes like poets, born, not made, but as a general thing it is necessary for one to give time and study to any subject before he is fitted to lead others in that direction. We can all have the satisfaction, however, that a good, conscientious follower is quite as useful in the world's work as the leader is.

Isabel sends this comforting letter for which the chaperone thanks her:

Dear Chaperone:—Am I the only M. G. R. in my town? Do not think I am one who agrees with the miss who wrote you that you were "as cross as any old maid." Seems to me if your name were Patient Prudence it wouldn't half do you justice; it's so kind of you to correct our letters. I believe there are some like myself (who have not had the privilege of a good education), who, if they had not the faith in you revising their letters would not write. I often think what some of our letters would look along side of those of lawyers, doctors, preachers and teachers, and for myself I thank you most sincerely. I often feel like giving you a great big hug, and as I am of the girls, I don't suppose Mr. Prudence would object nearly as much as you would.

Where is Coralyn? Talking with Jew, I suppose. I have been waiting for her to answer Curiosity, of the Cosy Corner, until I saw Curiosity look so sad, sigh and turn as if she would go. So I will endeavor to answer her. I. A. H. means I am His (Christ's). If you would know more about it, write to David C. Cook, Chicago, who is the president of the circle.

You may rest assured, Isabel, that Mr. Prudence nor the Chaperone would have the least objection to the "friendly hug" you speak of. To this date, you are the sole representative from your city, in the M. G. R.

Sunflower Kid comes again, having found time in the midst of his arduous duties as teacher to make a brief call.

May I come again? I wonder how many of the members are following the profession of teaching. I am teaching my first school in Kansas, and find the work much more tiresome than back east; yet I feel at home in the schoolroom.

I agree with Thelma and N. E. Girl, that we boys are finding too much fault with you girls, and that we ought to strive more to live up to our motto. But as we cannot see our faults as others see them, we should like if you would tell us wherein we fail, and I, for one, will try to rectify my wrongs, and if you girls will do likewise, there will be less room for fault-finding.

Let us all try to make the M. G. R., column still better in the future, than in the past, and try to follow, more closely, the instructions of Miss Prudence.

If the addresses of which you speak in your private letter, were sent you, do you not think you could work up something nice for the M. G. R., column through correspondence with them? If so, they will be sent you whenever you are ready for them.

Loraine tells us that our motto has been of great assistance to her in her endeavors to lead a Christian life.

Nix-for-Stein gives us as a finale to our meeting to-day an account of how rice is planted and cared for in Louisiana. This is new to most of us and will, doubtless, be very much enjoyed.

I will give a brief description of the culture of rice, thinking it may be of interest to some of the readers:

The first thing to do is to get the ground divided into plats, enclosed by small levees, as nearly level as possible. They sow their crop in the spring, and when the rice is twelve to fifteen inches high they turn the water on, and flood the fields until it is nearly ready to harvest when the levees are cut to let the water off. They don't wait for the ground to dry, but with two to three yoke of oxen to a binder, start to harvest their crop in the mud. The drive wheel for the binders have long, steel corks, or scrapers on to keep them from slipping on the ground; the wheel cutting into the ground, or rather mud, from four to six inches.

After it is harvested they thresh it the same as we do wheat, or oats, from there it goes to the huller, where the outer hull is taken off, when it is ready for us in the North, East and West.

Our Young Folks.

PRACTISING.

I.

Ten little troublesome fingers,
Ten little finger-nails—
Pattering on the piano,
Scattering over the scales.
Clicking and clacking and clattering,
Each in the other one's way—
What trying and aching and crying
To teach little children to play!

II.

To play? I call it working,
When ten little fingers like mine
Are bumping and clumping and thumping,
And never will fall into line.
They fumble and tumble and stumble,
They trip and they skip and they hop,
And just when the music is gayest
They come to an obstinate stop.

III.

Do you think that Mama's pretty fingers
That sparkle and dance on the keys
While the music is rippling below them,
Were ever as clumsy as these?
I would work—I would patiently practise,
How patiently!—day after day,
If I thought that my practice and patience
Would end in such beautiful play.
—Eliza Chester in St. Nicholas.

MISS PRUDENCE'S "TOWER."

New Jersey and Delaware Lead the Chaperone On to Washington.

My hostess in New Jersey was Miss Mame Lodge, whose home is a very pretty farm on the Delaware river,

eight miles below Philadelphia, where she met me, thus giving one a second opportunity of seeing the city of Brotherly Love.

She took me through Wanamaker's immense store, and after luncheon, escorted me to the city hall, to pay my respects to the old Liberty Bell.

En route to her home, we passed through the county town of Woodbury, where she pointed out many fine buildings.

Leaving the train at her home station, we were met with the family carriage, and arrived at "Tide Spring" in time for a six o'clock dinner.

In the evening, she took me for a walk to show me the river view which was certainly very fine, with Philadelphia, Ft. Mifflin and Chester on the Pennsylvania side, and Washington Park, Red Bank, Ft. Mercer, and Lincoln Park in New Jersey.

Next day we drove to most of these points of interest, visiting also Eglantine cemetery, Pitman Grove, and the tomb of Count de Nops.

A visit to Washington park, to see the beautiful electric fountain, closed a very pleasant day, and I took the trolley car for Philadelphia for a new start on my tour.

The little state of Delaware has always been connected in my mind with peaches and cream, probably because of the W. G. R. Peach who resides there.

She was, unfortunately, "not at home" at the time my journey was taken, so I crossed over to the District of Columbia, where "Stephen" gave me a true "cycler's welcome."

My sight-seeing began at once, for in passing through the ladies' waiting room at the station, she called my attention to the star placed in the floor to mark the spot where Garfield fell, if 1881, shot by Guitteau.

On the way to her home, she informed me that her favorite mode of procedure was a bicycle—and I thanked my lucky stars that my imagination was more agile than my "mortal frame," since I was thus enabled to ride one of those machines with ease and dexterity during the days that followed.

The day being far spent, Stephen decided that a trip to the garret of her home would be all I was equal to, and we ascended the stairs to look out upon a view that can hardly be equaled, I fancy, in this country or any other, such a mingling was it of fine scenery and public and private buildings of great historic interest to every American.

Stephen's home is on a hill, and next morning at eight o'clock we "coasted" away in great shape, our first objective point being the Soldier's Home, passing on our way the residence of the Papal Ablegate, the home formerly occupied by Stephen A. Douglas.

Entering the southern gate of the Home grounds, we took the outer road to the eastern gate, to get a view of the Catholic University of America, where Bishop Keane has been rector for years.

Gen. Winfield Scott is honored as the founder of the Home, and there is a handsome monument erected to his memory; also the principal building is named for him; this is of white marble, with Norman battlements and clock tower, and contains rooms for 400 people.

There are four other buildings, named for Generals Sheridan, Sherman, Anderson and Surgeon B. Kiag, and near the chapel is a monument erected by the enlisted men of the army, in memory of Henry Wilson, the "Soldier's Friend."

Leaving the Home by the northern gate, we passed the National cemetery, where we saw the tomb of John A. Logan, then on our return to the city we rode down 14th street passing the Chinese legation (where we were fortunate in seeing His Highness and family taking an early airing). The Corean and Venezuelan legation residences, the Vermont avenue Christian church, and the Luther Place Memorial church where we dismounted to get a better view of the large bronze statue of Luther, were passed in rapid succession, as well as other buildings of similar interest, until we reached the Corcoran Art Gallery, where we spent some time examining the beautiful paintings.

Then my indefatigable guide escorted me to the state, war and navy department, a magnificent building, containing 500 rooms and two miles of marble halls—the largest office building in the world!

Its library contains 50,000 volumes, and many National heir-looms, among them the original "Declaration of Independence."

In the Naval department we saw the models of all our naval vessels.

At the White House we could only see the hall and the East room, but from the windows we could look out through the grounds and see off to the monument.

The equestrian statue of General Jackson attracted us to Lafayette Square, where there is also a statue of the good Frenchman, while opposite is the opera house named for the square, and built on the site of the house occupied by Secretary Seward at the time of his attempted assassination April 14, 1865.

James G. Blaine lived in this house in later years, and died in the room formerly occupied by Secretary Seward.

We were taken into the east wing of the Treasury Department and shown more money, or rather more boxes and bags said to contain money, than one of us at least ever expects to see again.

The cash room is one of the costliest rooms in the world, its walls being of choice American and Italian marble.

The Secret Service Museum, commonly called the rogue's gallery, contains photographs of the counterfeiters, also samples of their work which seemed incomprehensible to us when we looked at their stupid faces.

I was next taken over into Arlington, Va., to the old mansion built by Washington's foster-son in 1802 about the same time that the White House was erected.

From its portico we could look down on the Potomac 200 feet below us, the view being one that made us feel as if we could gaze upon it for hours.

After wandering for a little time among the graves of the Union and Revolutionary soldiers, having looked at the different monuments and taken a drink from the old well, we went back to the city riding down Pennsylvania avenue past the wonderful city post-office that will be completed—some time!

A walk up Capitol Hill, a rest in the beautiful grotto there, a little taste of music by the Marine band, more statues, and then we arrived at home, well-content to rest a bit after one day—full of sight-seeing.

The next morning we first visited the navy yard. No ships are built there now, and there were no vessels at anchor, but we saw "Long Tom"—a gun made in 1786—which has a most interesting history.

There were guns captured by Decatur and others, and more relics than I can enumerate contained in the museum at the yard.

The new library, which will be finished in 1897, is the thing of beauty that attracted us next. It is constructed of white granite and covers about three and one-half acres of ground.

Its dome is gilded with a thick coating of gold-leaf, and the parts not finished has a capacity of about 1,800,000 volumes.

The rotunda of the Capitol was next in order; an immense circular hall rising clear from the floor to the inner shell of the dome and canopy, the walls being adorned with paintings, among them a series of eight, illustrating the history of our country.

We visited the two Houses of Congress but did not go to the dome, as there is no elevator.

The National Botanical Gardens, the Peace Monument, the Pension Bureau with its freize representing the marching hosts of "Boys in Blue," the Smithsonian collection, the National Museum all claimed a share of our limited time and unlimited admiration, and finally we went to the Washington Monument and, taking the elevator, were carried up higher than we ever went before!

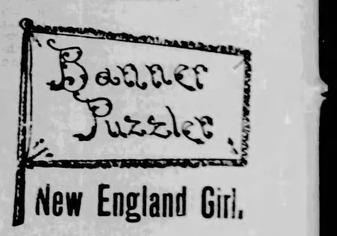
The monument is an obelisk, its height being 555 feet 5½ inches, and is the highest work of masonry in the world. There are eight windows in the top, and from them we had an extensive view over the district.

Passing by Ford's Theatre, where Lincoln was shot, we entered the house opposite, where he died, and where there are many interesting relics.

With a passing glance at the Patent and Postoffices, we wheeled homeward, quite ready for a long night's rest that should prepare one of us for her next day's journey.

[To Be Continued.]

OUR WONDER COLUMN



1.—WHO IS SHE?

She was born in Wexio, Wederslof, Sweden, August 20, 1843, and early showed an aptitude for music, visiting fairs and other gatherings, singing for a living, her father being a poor man. Her extraordinary voice attracted the attention of a gentleman of influence, and she was given some lessons by a noted singer, and sent to school at Halmstandt and Stockholm, and in six months' time was able to sing before the court of Sweden. She then went to Paris to study, and made her debut at the Theatre Lyrique, October 27, 1864. She remained there for nearly three years, and then went to England, returning to France the following year. In 1870-72 she first appeared in this country, returning to England in 1872 when she was married at Westminster Abbey to a merchant of Paris, who died in 1882. She was again married in 1887, and the next year gave her farewell concerts and retired to private life, having sung in most of the hospitals of Europe with remarkable success.

NEW ENGLAND GIRL.

2.—WORD SQUARE.

X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X

1.—A mass of unwrought metal.
2.—One of the points of the compass.
3.—A frame of iron bars.
4.—A carnivorous aquatic animal of several species, feeding on fish.
5.—In, at or to that place.

B. VAN NORMAN.

3.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

What is the area of a circular food, an arc of which measures 48 rods, the distance from the center of the arc to a right line connecting the ends of the arc being 13½ rods?

W. P. E.

4.—A LESSON IN PORTS.

1.—A port of maintenance.
2.—A port of manners.
3.—A port of significance.
4.—A port of narrative.
5.—A port of tenderness.

ROBT. S. WALKER.

Example—A port of endurance: Com port.

5.—QUERY.

Who can tell us about the Halcyon Days?

PANSY.

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:

"Who was her father?
Who was her mother?
Had she a sister?
Had she a brother?
Or was there a nearer one
Still, and a nearer one
Yet, than all other?"

C. M. B.

Answers to Puzzles of January 14.

1.—Bayard Taylor.
2.—Words in the square: Osage, sage, agent, Genie, Estey.
3.—223 1-3 feet.
4.—Charles Carroll.

Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote:

"Creation was not finished till the poet came to interpret, and so complete it."

Answer to Query of January

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

HON. WILLIAM E. MASON

Will Represent Illinois in the Next Senate.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 20.—Ex-Congressman William E. Mason was nominated for United States Senator at the Republican joint caucus last night after one of the most bitterly fought battles in the history of the Republican party in Illinois. Although he had been canvassing the state as a Senatorial candidate for two years, Mr. Mason's selec-

HON. W. E. MASON.

tion was regarded by "machine" politicians, as an impossibility up to within two hours of the time of his triumphant and unanimous nomination, the choice being the result of the sudden withdrawal from the race of Congressman William Lorimer, who had the almost solid vote of Chicago and Cook county. The contest had been so long drawn out and the battle so fierce that the legislators were in a mood to be stampeded at any moment. As the hour for the caucus drew near and the sudden shifting of Cook county forces to Mason carried the other candidates off their feet, the tide turned towards the ex-Congressman with a rush that carried everything before it, and the nomination was made without the merest show of opposition.

The action of the caucus will be ratified at the session of the joint legislature which meets at noon to-day. The Democratic vote will be cast for Altgeld the same as yesterday.

Biographical.

William E. Mason was born July 7, 1850, in Franklinsville, and is the youngest of a family of 14 children, nine of whom were boys. In 1856 his parents moved to Bentonport, Ia. After passing through the public school with great credit, at the age of 15, he began teaching. At the same time he attended the college at Birmingham, Ia. At 19 he was graduated with honors, and went to Des Moines, where he became a teacher in the high school. He continued in this position until 21, devoting his spare time to the study of law and shorthand. He then went into the law office of Thomas Withrow, and when a year later Mr. Withrow was made general solicitor of the C. R. I. & P. railroad, Mr. Mason came with him to Chicago as his clerk. Having perfected himself in shorthand, Mr. Mason became a court reporter. Subsequently he formed a law partnership with Judge Wallace. Afterwards he was associated in practice with Lawrence Butts. In 1873 Mr. Mason married Edith M. White, of Des Moines. Seven of their nine children are living. Mr. Mason was twice a member of the Illinois House of Representatives and once of the state Senate. He was also a member of the Fiftieth and Fifty-first Congresses.

Mr. Mason enjoys the distinction of being the champion campaigner of Illinois, having during the past eight years addressed more people in this state than any other man during that time.

HARRIS, OF KANSAS,

Will Succeed Peffer and His Whiskers in the Senate.

Topeka, Kas., Jan. 21.—William A. Harris, of Linwood, was nominated for United States Senator last night on the 35th ballot, by the Populist convention. The vote stood: Harris 57, King 52, Breidenthal 35, Little 5, Madden 2, Martin 1.

Senator Peffer dropped out a few ballots before. The joint session to ratify the nomination will be next Tuesday.

Mr. Harris is 54 years old. During the past 20 years he has been a farmer. In 1892 he was elected by the Populists as Congressman at large and held the place until 1894 when defeated by Blue, the present Republican incumbent.

Mr. Harris is an ex-Confederate, having served during the rebellion as assistant adjutant general in Wilcox's brigade, Longstreet's division, and as chief of ordnance in the divisions of Hill and Rhodes. He is a civil engineer of ability and was employed in an engineering capacity during the construction of the Union Pacific road for three years. He was also connected with the Nicaraguan canal survey. Mr. Harris is everywhere recognized as an able and cultured gentleman.

PULVERIZE THE RUM POWER!

Radical Local Option Bill for Michigan.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 21.—A most radical local option bill will be noticed in the House soon and will be pushed by the Michigan anti-saloon league. The bill will make it mandatory that every second year there shall be submitted to the voice of the people at the polls this question: "Shall the traffic in intoxicating liquors as a beverage be prohibited?" The question is to be printed upon all ballots in every city, county, village, ward and township.

In case the question is carried in the affirmative in any ward, township, village, city or county, all persons engaged in the liquor traffic must, within 40 days after election, discontinue it within the territory where the question carried, be it ward, city, village, township, or county, upon penalty of a maximum fine of $500 or 60 days in jail.

Registered druggists will be the only dealers allowed to sell liquor, and this only upon a written prescription, signed by a reputable physician, and in each instance of a sale, they are to keep a complete record of the name of the purchaser and the kind of liquor sold. One prescription shall be good only for one sale. Violation of this provision on the part of the druggist subjects him to a maximum fine of $100. The prosecuting attorney of every county is to prosecute every violation of the law, and is to receive 10 per cent of all fines costs and forfeited bonds collected, and paid into the county treasury. All money raised from fines, etc., are to be paid into the county treasury.

Supt. Brant, of the Michigan anti-saloon league, has assured the temperance members of the House that the national Prohibition party will stand by the bill and that it already has the indorsement of every church and civic reform body in the state.

Hoosier Saloon Fighters.

Decatur, Ind., Jan. 23.—The saloonkeepers of Monroeville, a little town a few miles east of this city, are mourning the loss of their best customers. A vigilance committee has been organized for the purpose of preventing intemperance in the town, and notice has been sent to the habitual drunkards that they will be given rough treatment if they are again found in an intoxicated condition.

Greater Chicago, Now.

Chicago, Jan. 20.—The city council at its meeting has adopted a resolution providing for a commission to prepare for presentation to the legislature plans for the abolishment of township organizations in Cook county and the creation of a Greater Chicago.

THE COLD WAVE.

Blizzard is Very General Over the Country.

Chicago, Jan. 25.—The cold wave struck Chicago worse to-day than either yesterday or the day before, going materially under the point Sunday when the records of 25 years were broken. At 7 a. m. to-day the signal service reported a temperature of 20 degrees below zero with no relief in sight. At 8 o'clock the temperature was exactly the same. The heavy fog from the lake which enveloped the down-town district made the cold doubly dangerous. Frozen fingers, noses and ears were of common occurrence, and numerous cases of a more serious character were reported.

Realizing that during this severe weather delay in offering relief to the destitute might be fatal in many cases, Mayor Swift has called upon the police force of the city to aid in the work of gathering information concerning the urgent needs of the thousands of suffering poor of Chicago.

It is the mayor's purpose, pending the time when the work of relief through intelligence gathered by the police can be put in organized form to be personally responsible for whatever sums it may be necessary to expend to relieve extreme cases of need and save the poor from freezing or starving. Fifteen hundred homeless men partook of the hospitality of the city last night and slept under the roofs of the police stations.

Fifty-three persons were listed as overcome by the terrible cold in Chicago yesterday, and were rescued in a partly frozen condition. One death occurred which was due to the cold, and a number of people are likely to die as the result of frozen limbs or exposure. Most of the sufferers succumbed to the cold while about their usual tasks, but a number of the victims were homeless wanderers.

Indications received at the weather bureau are for still more freezing weather to-day. "Worse and more of it" is the way the weather man puts it. A wave of Artic cold is sweeping down from the Northwest propelled by one of the lowest barometer areas known to the experts in the service of the weather bureau. Last evening the cold wave had moved as far south as Oklahoma; to the East it had advanced to the western boundary of Pennsylvania; in the Northwest the temperature went down to 50 below at Medicine Hat.

From a meteorological standpoint the cold wave is especially interesting. It was caused in the first place by tremendous atmospheric pressure in the Northwest extreme, the barometer there registering 31½ inches. This is phenomenal, Professor Garriott says, being the highest reading in his memory.

AUSTRALIAN ROMANCE.

Search for a Missing Heiress in Chicago.

Chicago, Jan. 20.—Alfred Ashbrook, a millionaire sheep owner of Melbourne, Australia, died in 1896, and left his estranged daughter, Edith, one-third of his vast estate. The heiress is supposed to be in Chicago or its vicinity and detectives are trying to find her.

Announcement of Ashbrook's death and disposition of his property was made in a communication received to-day by Chicago attorneys, from correspondents at Melbourne who have the estate in charge.

The estate of the sheep king, as Ashbrook was known, amounted to at least $2,500,000. Two daughters beside the missing Edith are the beneficiaries.

The story of Miss Edith's leaving home and her estrangement from her family is romantic. In spite of parental objection she married the man she loved and received a father's curses and promise of disinheritance. But the latter promise was, as now develops, never fulfilled.

In 1880 Edith Ashbrook, then 18 years old, met and loved Edward Townsend, an American civil engineer at a ball in Melbourne. After a few months' courtship Townsend proposed and was accepted by the girl, but the parent would not sanction the union. The girl, however, married Townsend. The following year Townsend and his bride left Melbourne, going to San Francisco, where for a while he was employed on one of the morning papers. In 1886 the couple went to Port Townsend, Wash., and later to Seattle. Later they drifted to Victoria, B. C., where Townsend is said to have died of pneumonia. With her child Mrs. Townsend has moved from one place to another, supporting herself and child as best she could. Two years ago advices from Melbourne state she was employed as a clerk in one of the big department stores in Chicago. That was the last heard of her.

FIGHTING ARSON.

Seems Impossible to Stamp Out the Firebugs.

New York, Jan. 20.—All the extreme penalties excepting that of death in the electric chair have been meted out to incendiaries in the city of New York, yet arson, the twin brother of murder, is perpetrated with startling frequency.

The law apparently has, in its past enforcement, at least, no terrors for these evil-doers of the night, these worse than assassins. The authorities fondly believed, when they had broken up the Zuker-Hirschkopf gang of incendiaries, the history of whose operations startled the country, that they had put an effectual quietus upon this class of criminals.

Adolph Meyer was caught, firebrand in hand, Saturday night. For the gain of the paltry $500 insurance on his household goods he had set a fire that might have destroyed a score or more of persons. For $500 he was tempting the fate of Schoenholz and the others.

Henry Levy was caught the Wednesday night preceding, running from a burning building that the police say he undoubtedly fired. He had used benzine, the witnesses say. Meyer, who was a novice, had used kerosene.

AGAINST HIGH HATS.

Bill Introduced in the Colorado Legislature Imposes a Fine.

Denver, Col., Jan. 20.—A bill has been introduced in the legislature which lays an embargo on the high theatre hat. They must go. Eugene Engley, who introduced the bill, says so. So do the women in the legislature. The theatre managers demand it and the back seats cry for it. The bill provides a penalty of $10 for violation of the law in each case, which is deemed sufficient to exclude them.

Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 20.—By a unanimous vote the aldermen instructed the city solicitor to draw up an ordinance prohibiting and punishing the wearing of large hats at theatres and public entertainments where such hats obstruct the view of others. It is proposed to impose a fine of $2 to $10 for each offense. The ordinance will come up at the next council meeting.

A "LIVE" SHELL.

Disastrous Explosion of an Old Rebellion Relic.

Bloomington, Ill., Jan. 20.—A dreadful concussion shook up the 800 block of East Grove street late Monday night, jarring the ground and breaking the doors and windows of several houses. It was caused by the exploding of a boomshell in the house of Robert Savage, a colored man, residing at 814 East Grove street.

The shell was such as were fired from mortars by gunboats during the rebellion and was five inches in diameter and 15 inches long. Savage's son, aged 12, heated a poker red hot and stuck it into the shell. The shell was torn to fragments and the boy was badly hurt. His eyebrows and hair were singed and his face gashed and filled with powder.

The shell had been used as an anvil and for cracking nuts for many years and no one imagined that it contained a charge.

Thos. Slater has a message for every man o. page 3. Don't fail to read it.

M'KENNA AT CANTON.

He Had an Invitation From Major McKinley.

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—United States Circuit Judge McKenna has just arrived from Canton, O., where he went to visit President-elect McKinley. It was this visit, very suddenly made, that disclosed the fact that Judge McKenna will in all probability be offered the portfolio of Secretary of the Interior by the President-elect. Judge McKenna

JUDGE M'KENNA.

left San Francisco a week ago last Monday, went to Canton, remained twelve hours, and returned to San Francisco, the entire trip consuming just ten days. The return of Judge McKenna was as sudden and unheard of as his departure. Though fatigued from the long journey across the continent, Judge McKenna had much to say of the purpose of his flying trip, and the prospects of his becoming a member of the next cabinet. He was very cautious in his statements, however. He admitted, nevertheless, that the cabinet question, particularly in relation to himself, called him to Canton. While he qualified all his remarks in relation to his acceptance of a proposed portfolio, he is very certain that California will have a representative in the official family.

He said: "I consider that too much significance has been attached to my visit. Many changes may occur. There is perfect freedom on the part of Major McKinley to do as he may wish, and perfect freedom on my part. It is difficult to state the exact situation.

"There are some difficulties in the way of my acceptance of the portfolio. I explained that very fully, and they are not yet definitely settled. Neither the vacancy on the supreme bench nor my present position is in any way involved in the question of my acceptance of a place in the cabinet. There are other difficulties in the way of my appointment to a cabinet position."

LYMAN J. GAGE

Would Like to Be Secretary of the Treasury.

Chicago, Jan. 23.—Lyman J. Gage, president of the First National bank, of Chicago, will accept the treasury portfolio in Major McKinley's cabinet if it is tendered him. Mr. Gage as much as intimated this to friends, indicating that he would consider it the crowning honor of a successful life.

"I have not in any sense been a candidate for secretary of the treasury," said Mr. Gage. "I know that my name has been taken to Mr. McKinley and

LYMAN J. GAGE.

that he now has it under advisement, but the high office has not been tendered to me openly or secretly, and what is intended to be done hereafter, I do not know.

"For Major McKinley, I have the highest respect. I have always admired him. He is a thorough American statesman. There is no conflict between him and me as to how the finances of the government should be conducted. On that ground, if no other, I could accept the portfolio. But the position is a trying one and will be especially so during the next four years, while the financial system of the country is being reorganized. I am deeply sensible of the honor conferred upon me in having my name even considered, and I would regret very much to leave Chicago if called on to go to Washington."

UNITED STATES SENATORS.

Various Legislatures Ballot for Candidates.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 23.—Republican members of the state legislature in caucus last night gave the complimentary nomination for U. S. senator to J. S. Burton, of Abilene. Mr. Burton was selected on the second ballot, receiving 40 of the 49 votes cast, ex-Senator John J. Ingalls securing 3 and Gen. J. C. Caldwell 6.

Boise, Idaho, Jan. 23.—Senatorial ballot yesterday: Claggett, 27; Dubois, 26; Nelson, 15; Lewis, 1; G. C. Parkinson, 1.

Olympia, Wash., Jan. 23.—The eighth ballot for U. S. senator to-day resulted as follows: Denny, 25; Turner, 24; Squire, 6; Cline, 18; Daniels, 22; Winsor, 11; Baker, 5; Rader, 4; scattering, 3. Ninth ballot: Denny, 26; Turner, 23; Squire, 5; Cline, 17; Daniels, 18; Winsor, 11; Baker, 4; Rader, 2; scattering, 3.

Salem, Ore., Jan. 23.—The Benson wing of the house met yesterday and after transacting preliminary business adjourned until Monday. The senate also adjourned until Monday afternoon which will undoubtedly delay voting for United States senator until February, 1898.

Taro Flour.

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—An interesting item on the manifest of the steamship Australia, just arrived from Honolulu is 204 bags of taro flour, the principal ingredient in the famous Hawaiian dish known as "poi." So far as known this is the first shipment of the flour ever received. It is consigned to Chicago. The flour is made from the taro root. When properly prepared and eaten with the fingers it is preferred by the Hawaiian to any of the many delicacies the islands afford.

Jones Goes Back.

Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 20.—The Senate and House balloted separately for United States Senator yesterday, with the result that Senator James K. Jones was re-elected by an overwhelming majority. The ten Populists cast their votes for J. R. Sovereign and three Republicans for Gen. Powell Clayton. The joint session meets to-day to formally elect Senator Jones.

Suit Filed at Omaha.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 23.—The bill in the foreclosure suit against the Union Pacific was filed in the United States circuit court here at noon.

GREAT WHEEL SHOW.

Biggest In the World Opened in Chicago Saturday.

Chicago, Jan. 23.—With the going down of the sun this evening there will open at the Coliseum what is claimed to be the largest bicycle exhibition ever held in this or any other country. It is under the auspices of the national cycle board of trade, and the Eastern exposition, which will be quite as large if not larger, will open at the Grand Central palace in New York on February 6. Some idea of the magnitude of the present exposition can be gained from the fact that there are over five hundred spaces, each with an aggregate of seven wheels, and that the aggregate value of all the exhibits at catalogue prices reaches $800,000. The show, a private view of which was given to the press and trade this morning is replete with novelties. There is a model of the bicycle fire-engine, the product of an English inventor, and which was described in these dispatches some time since. There are also several chainless cycles, and one of the galleries is given up to a display of motocycles and other automobile vehicles.

The immense Coliseum has been elaborately decorated for the event and literally turned into fairyland. Twenty thousand yards of bunting have been used in draping the girders and beams, and 2,500 Japanese lanterns, all enclosing an incandescent light, together with garlands of evergreens, Spanish moss, Southern smilax and bunting, encircle the entire building.

Illuminated Bicycle Hub.

A novel feature is a colossal hub, shown by an Eastern firm. It is three feet ten inches in length and sixteen inches in diameter. The interior is electrically illuminated, and the cups and cones so constructed that those interested in cycle mechanism will be afforded an opportunity of studying the functions of the ball-bearing and of observing how such a bearing should be constructed so that the balls may perform their work with a minimum of friction. Another novelty is a new gear-case, upon which the inventor, George C. Greenburg, has been at work for more than a year. It is believed that it solves the gear-case problem, especially as it can be applied to any wheel on the market. The case is aluminum and weighs less than a pound.

Changes In 1897 Models.

It is noticeable that in the 1897 models there is a reduction in the use of bolts and nuts at the handlebar and at the seat-post cluster. Larger bells are also used in the bearings. In many machines the round crank is superseded by the square. There are no material alterations in the frames, but the crank-hangers have a greater drop from the rear hub, this being conducive to speed and ease of propulsion. As a rule the current year's models are from one to two pounds heavier than heretofore.

IN ALABAMA.

Another Train Robbery On the Southern Railway.

Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 22.—For the third time within one month, robbers held up train No. 35 of the Southern railway near Berry Station, 70 miles West of Birmingham and robbed the Southern Express company's car. The scene of the robberies are within a mile of each other and they are almost identically alike in every detail.

Train No. 35 left here at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon for Greenville, Miss. As it pulled out from Berry, which is a small place in the wildest section of Alabama, a masked man heavily armed climbed into the engine cab and presenting pistols at the engineer and firemen ordered them to obey his commands at the peril of their lives. At the same time two other masked robbers boarded the forward platform of the express car.

When the train reached a secluded spot three miles from Berry it was halted. The engineer and firemen were ordered back to the express car where the two other robbers were in waiting. Under the direction of the outlaws the express car door was broken open by the engineer and firemen and pistols thrust into Express Messenger Ward's face. His safe keys were secured and the local safe rifled of its contents, which the express officials say amounted to $1,500.

Before leaving the car the robbers selected from the freight packages a four gallon jug of good whisky. They then backed out and disappeared in the darkness. The robbery delayed the train but 12 minutes. The express officials here deny that the robbers broke open the through safe which is said to have contained a large sum of money. They say the messenger had no key to this safe.

A large posse with bloodhounds have gone to the scene of the holdup.

IN RHODE ISLAND.

Industrial Improvement in Manufacturing Districts.

Pascoag, R. I., Jan. 22.—The industrial situation in Pascoag and vicinity has been depressed for months, but is improving rapidly and many of the woolen mills, which form the chief industry are increasing their production. The starting of W. F. Slade & Co.'s mills temporarily this week has been followed by that of others, among them being those of A. L. Sayles & Son, who announce that they are making preparations to run on full time. W. H. Pendergast's mills have already begun to make goods at their full capacity, and the management says that if the market sufficiently improves there will be no need to reduce the running time for several months at least. Wagner Bros. are increasing the number of their looms daily, and will operate steadily.

OKLAHOMA DIVORCES.

Hundreds of Decrees to Be Cancelled Soon.

Guthrie, Okla., Jan. 22.—Hundreds of Eastern people who secured divorces in Oklahoma slipped out of the territory without paying the costs. A section of the Oklahoma law little known provides that no divorce granted in the territory shall be valid unless the costs are all paid, and when a divorce is granted it becomes effective for either party only when the costs have been fully satisfied, no matter against whom assessed.

Hundreds of such decrees on the court records will soon be cancelled, and, as the majority of the parties have since been remarried, it will leave them guilty of bigamy and open to criminal prosecution.

IN SHERMAN'S PLACE.

That There is Plenty of Time to Choose a Senator.

Springfield, O., Jan. 22.—The report became widely circulated here last evening that an unknown Columbus gentleman had called on Governor Bushnell here yesterday and urged the appointment of Lieutenant Governor Jones for the prospective senator vacancy. The governor, when interrogated about the matter last evening, said there was no truth in the report whatever.

The governor added: "I understand that John Sherman has stated that he would not resign before March 4. Inasmuch as the vacancy will not occur until then, and 'there's many a slip 'twixt cup and lip' I am not hurrying to make up my mind as to what I shall do."

All day yesterday wherever the governor happened to go, he was accosted with the salutation "Hello, Senator," People with one common impulse addressed him by that title.

Hansbrough Re-Elected.

Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 20.—At the joint session of the legislature to-day, Hon. Henry C. Hansbrough was elected to succeed himself as United States Senator for a term of six years from March 4 next.

All men should read Thos. Slater's offer on page 3.

HELPLESS WOMEN

The Prey of Brutal Soldiers Serving Spain.

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 21.A special to the Commercial Tribune from Key West says:

Among the passengers on last night's steamer from Havana was Jose Micando, from the interior south of Havana. He reports a fight at Helena Del Sur, in the southern part of Havana province, two weeks ago, that the officials have not yet reported. A Spanish cavalry force of some 600 men camping there were surprised by 400 Cubans under Col. Sanchez, one of Maceo's old officers. The Spanish forces fought bravely, but retreated within half an hour with 20 men killed. The Cubans suffered a loss of eight. The Cubans pursued but were drawn into ambush and punished terribly, losing 50 men. They withdrew and the Spanish troops re-entered their old camp and began merry-making in honor of their victory. Late that night, the insurgents again attacked and surprised the camp, forcing their way to the commanding officers quarters before their presence was discovered. Then the Spanish soldiers fled, flinging down their weapons. The insurgents pursued them for miles, killing and wounding over 100. The captured officers were finally released on parole. The Cubans were received by the people as deliverers. After remaining there two days they moved northward.

Three days after that a Spanish force commanded by the guerilla captain, Felix Des Gratia, marched in. After securing the mayor and other officers as prisoners, he secured the persons of the leading women of the place, and then gave the town over to his ruffianly soldiers. For the next two hours the Spanish guerillas had their own way with the helpless women and girls. Seven men and four young lads were brutally killed while attempting to protect their relatives. Many women died from their treatment. Two young women killed themselves rather than submit to the insults of the soldiers.

The mayor was hanged in front of his own door, his wife and daughter being compelled to witness the execution. The captain charged that he gave aid to the rebels. Two of the other officials were brutally beaten, and then released with a caution that the next visit meant death. The insurgents have set a price upon the head of this captain and if caught his trial will be short.

A CUBAN DASH.

Train Captured and Several Spanish Officers Killed.

Havana, via Key West, Jan. 21.—There was great consternation in Havana on Sunday last, January 17, when the report gained currency that the insurgents had hanged Senor Serrando, lieutenant colonel on the staff, 10 officers and many passengers at Guanabacoa. As the usual train left Regla at 10 o'clock p. m. on Saturday for Guanabacoa, the train was derailed near the switch at Cambute. The passengers believed that only a trivial accident had occurred and jumped out of the windows. Suddenly a number of herculean negroes, armed with carabines and machetes, invaded the three coaches, threatening to kill the passengers and compelling them to vacate the cars, killing a negro passenger and seriously wounding a soldier.

Great excitement immediately ensued, the ladies shrieking and unwilling to leave their husbands and parents.

It seems that the insurgent colonel, Aranguren, with 150 cavalry, had laid two bulls on the rails, which threw the train off the track. The insurgents captured two captains and eleven other officers, all unarmed, four soldiers, the second chief of the municipal police of Havana, who was returning home, the engineer and fireman and three employes of the railroad.

The insurgents immediately set about plundering and despoiling the passengers of their money and jewelry. They set at liberty all excepting the officers and railroad employes. They took from the officers their jewelry and from several passengers who were on the train over $3,000 in money. Then the insurgents withdrew upon his instructions, had received a verdict of not guilty.

Shortly after the opening of the proceedings to-day, the solicitor general, R. B. Finlay, Q. C., M. P., who prosecuted for the crown, announced that he had definitely ascertained yesterday that the delivery of the explosive at Antwerp occurred after Ivory left that place, and that there was no legal evidence that the prisoner was cognizant of their delivery.

Therefore it had been decided not to present evidence thereon. Continuing, Mr. Finley said in regard to other evidence against Ivory, that while he felt that the correspondence which had fallen into the hands of the police and the movements of Ivory permitted the gravest suspicion, there was no evidence justifying the crown in asking for his conviction.

After complimenting the police upon the intelligence shown in the discharge of a difficult duty, Justice Hawkins directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty. Justice Hawkins, in conclusion advised Ivory strongly to look carefully at his future.

Ivory bowed smilingly in return and left the dock. He was met in the body of the court by several friends who shook hands with him and congratulated him upon his release. Ivory was heard to remark: "I knew I should get out of it."

THE UNSPEAKABLE TURK.

European Powers May Agree to Coercive Measures.

London, Jan. 21.—Official correspondence between Great Britain and Russia published here to-day, shows that the Marquis of Salisbury on October 20 last, proposed that the ambassadors at Constantinople should formulate reforms to be enforced by the powers.

M. Shiskine, then the acting Russian minister for foreign affairs, replied on November 18, saying that the Czar had decided that it was impossible to agree to coercive measures against the Sultan. But on November 25 there was a further communication to the effect that the Czar had agreed to the Marquis of Salisbury's proposal, and would not object to advise the Russian ambassador relative to coercion, should the Sultan prove recalcitrant and refuse to adopt the reforms unanimously recommended by the ambassadors.

London, Jan. 20.—A constantinople dispatch to the Daily Mail says that the sultan firmly resists European control of Turkey's finances or administration. This dispatch also says that Russia is secretly treating to obtain the use of a port on the Black Sea.

THE PLAGUE SPREADING.

St. Petersburg Alarmed and for Good Reason.

New York, Jan. 22.—The Herald's European edition publishes the following from its correspondent:

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20, 1897.—The fear of the Indian plague reaching here grows rapidly. The Novoe Vremya says:

"With England's present methods in permitting the population of the stricken districts to emigrate the plague will very soon be rife all over the country."

The Mirovie Otgloski says: "Italy, France and Austria have taken precautions. History has shown that Russia is always the country that suffers the most from the pest.

"Russian doctors should at once go to the plague stricken districts and find out the truth and study the disease, as we can not rely on the reports of the English, whose commercial interests have eaten into the humanitarian instincts of all nations.

"The world should unite to form a cordon around the devastated plague districts."

Here all preparations for maritime and land quarantine are under consideration. Doctors have been sent to keep a proper guard on the Persian and Afghan frontiers.

Sir Isaac Pitman Dead.

London, Jan. 22.—Sir Isaac Pitman, the inventor of the system of shorthand writing which bears his name, is dead. He has been suffering severely from a complication of troubles for sime time past.

MARK TWAIN.

Buffeted by Fortune and In Broken Health.

London, Jan. 23.—Few of Mark Twain's many friends know of the plucky fight he is making with adversity, or how badly he has been used by fortune. In a word Mark Twain, who, a couple of years ago thought himself rich, is to-day worse than penniless.

Since his return from Africa a few months ago he has been living in very modest lodgings in London, going nowhere and seeing out one or two friends, working all day and every day, at a history of his trip around the world. With the proceeds of this book he hopes to be able to pay off his creditors and to leave something for his family.

Mark Twain lost practically everything when Webster & Co failed, and the lecture trip around the world which he undertook with the hope of retrieving his fortunes, did not turn out a financial success for him. So, over 60 years of age, in poor health, and in a strange country, America's greatest humorist is, perhaps, working harder than ever before.

IVORY FREED.

No Case Against the Alleged Dynamiter.

London, Jan. 20.—There was a great surprise at the Old Bailey central criminal court this morning when the crown prosecutor withdrew the charge of conspiracy to commit a dynamite explosion brought against Edward J. Ivory, alias Bell, of New York, who was arrested in September last at about the same time that P. J. Tynan was taken

EDWARD J. IVORY.

into custody at Bologne-Sur-Mer, France, and John F. Kearney and Thomas Haines, alias J. Wallace, were captured by the police at Antwerp, Belgium, on the same charge.

Justice Hawkins, upon the announcement by the crown prosecutor, ordered the prisoner to be discharged, after the jury, acting upon his instructions, had

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committed to do all in their power to secure by international agreement the stablementary par of the exchange of gold and silver. The Bank of England is still willing to keep a fifth of its reserve in silver bars. But in spite of the willingness of Great Britain, which has been expressed to Senator Wolcott to bring in the mints of India into any international agreement, Great Britain under no circumstances will take the initiative in calling a new conference, considering as she does, that the above offers are the first practical step toward international bimetallism taken by any government. She now wants to see what practical steps other governments are willing to take.

The continental powers are equally unwilling to take the lead in calling a monetary conference as they unanimously believe that the United States both by its position and importance must take the initiative.

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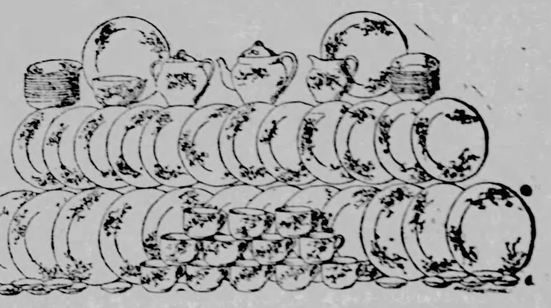
—AND—
DINNER SETS.

Another Reduction---Later Designs.

Eighty, Fifty-six, One Hundred and Eight or Twenty-eight pieces handsomely decorated in several colors and gold band. These goods are made especially for THE BLADE, and we guarantee the highest quality of goods the best grade of workmanship, the latest and most stylish shape of pieces as well as late and artistic design of decoration. The following illustration was reproduced from a photograph of our first 80-piece Tea Set. It gives a fair idea, but we now have later designs and shapes. Also, we give better material and color than formerly.



No. 1.—BLADE STANDARD TEA SET, 80 PIECES.—We call this set like illustration above) Standard, because it is the same Tea Set we offered last year in connection with the Weekly Blade. We have sold thousands of sets of these goods, and in every case the recipient received more than expected. This year we expect to sell at the reduced prices over 5 Thousand Sets. This set consists of 12 pieces, as follows: 12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 tea cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit dishes, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 round cake plates, 1 tea pot, 1 cover, 1 sugar bowl, 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher and 1 bowl.

The No. 1 Blade Standard Tea Set, 80 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $5.00. (former price $7); or we will present one of these sets to any person sending us a club of seven subscribers and $7.00. The club of seven names to be sent all at one time.

No. 2.—BLADE TEA SET, 56 PIECES.—This set is exactly like the above illustrated 80-piece Tea Set, deducting 12 breakfast plates and 12 individual butter plates.

The No. 2 Tea Set, 56 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade, one year, only $3.75, (former price $5.00); or we will present one of these Sets to any person sending us a club of Six Subscribers and $6. The club of six names to be sent all at one time.

No. 3.—BLADE DINNER SET, 108 PIECES.—We can describe this set by taking the above illustrated 80-piece Tea Set and adding the following: 12 soup plates, 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 8-inch bakers, 1 sauce boat, 2 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (2 pieces), 2 casseroles, 1 comport, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug, making a total of 108 pieces.

The No. 3 Blade Dinner Set, 108 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $8.25; or we will present one of these Sets to any person sending us a club of 16 Subscribers and $16. The club of 16 names to be sent all at one time.

No. 4.—BLADE CHINA SORTS, 28 PIECES, consisting of 12 soup plates, 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 8-inch bakers, 1 sauce boat, 2 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (2 pieces), 2 casseroles, 1 comport, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug. We offer this to those who may purchase a No. 1 Standard Tea Set and afterwards desire to have a complete dinner set.

The No. 4 Blade China Sorts, 28 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $4.50; or we will present one of these Assortments to any person sending us a club of eight subscribers and $8. The club of eight names all to be sent at one time.

NOTE.—These sets are decorated with a later pattern than those we sold two years ago, and consequently will not match with former purchases. We recommend our readers to buy, first, our No. 1 Blade Standard Set. Afterwards, if pleased with the goods, you may order our No. 4 set, the two combined making you a complete dinner set.

General Directions and Information.

ORDER BY NUMBER. The goods are carefully packed in box by manufacturer and shipped direct from the pottery to the purchaser upon our order. We shall order every package shipped by freight unless otherwise instructed. The receiver pays transportation. From Toledo we can ship to all points east of the Missouri River, while it may cost somewhere near $2 to pay freight to points beyond the Rockies. We do not advise shipping by express. Never before was so much value offered for so little money. Twenty years ago only the rich could afford such goods as these. We guarantee these goods the best Stone China in the world, superior in enamel, color, style and finish to the best imported wares. We make no profit. We want and will have as a result of this offer, thousands of clubs. These articles will be useful to the house of every reader of The Blade, no matter whether rich or poor. Any person can well try it can raise a club of ten to twenty for The Blade in a day. Get about it before some one else canvasses the field. We are prepared to fill orders promptly.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

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We have made arrangements with one of the largest music houses on this continent to furnish our readers with SIX PIECES, full size, complete and unabridged SHEET MUSIC for FIFTEEN CENTS.

This great sheet music offer is, without the least doubt, the greatest value for the least money ever before offered by any newspaper in the whole history of journalism. The quality of this sheet music is the very best. The composers' names are household words all over the continent. None but high price copyright pieces or most popular reprints. It is printed on regular sheet music paper, from new plates made from large, clear type, and is in every way first class and worthy of a place in your home.

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WASHINGTON.

PACIFIC RAILROADS.

The Statement of Attorney General Harmon.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Attorney General Harmon yesterday gave out the following statement of the agreement with the reorganization committee of the Union Pacific railroad.

"Upon the defeat of the funding bill in the House, the President directed the attorney general to commence foreclosure proceedings against the Union Pacific Railway Company, first making the best arrangements obtainable for the protection of the government's interests. Following the lines indicated in his last report, the attorney general began negotiations with the reorganization committee. On Thursday an agreement was made which will result in immediate steps to foreclose. The chief subject of the negotiations was the protection of the government against the risk of sacrifice of its claim by a sale at a price which would leave nothing substantial after paying prior liens. This protection is now assured by a guarantee that the government shall receive on its lien on the aided portions of the Union Pacific and Kansas Pacific lines, including the sinking fund, not less than $45,754,000. The sale will be public, so that the government will receive the benefit of any higher bids up to the full amount of its claim, principal and interest. The sum of four and a half million dollars cash was on Thursday deposited with the United States Trust Company, of New York, by Gen. Louis Fitzgerald, chairman of the committee, as security according to the terms of the agreement. The committee agree to bid par for the sinking fund if it is desired to sell it at any time before the foreclosure sale,

"Bills in equity have been prepared, signed by the attorney general and Hon. George Hoadley, special counsel, and forwarded to St. Louis, where they will on Friday be presented to Judge Sanborn, who has jurisdiction on all the districts and whose consent to their filing is necessary because the receivers in charge of the property are made parties defendant. They are original bills and not cross bills in the pending suits. Whether they will proceed as independent bills or to be ordered to stand as cross bills in the pending suits will be determined by the judge, but, in either event, the result will be practically the same, viz.: The sale of the property under the government's lien as well as under that of the first mortgage. The bills will be filed in the districts of Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado and Utah. Separate bills for the foreclosure of the lien on the Kansas Pacific are in course of preparation. These will be filed in Missouri and Kansas.

"The proposed arrangement was submitted to the government directors before it was closed. They all recommended its adoption. Their general opinion was thus expressed:

"The government cannot prudently longer defer the settlement of this matter. The Union Pacific system has already been much curtailed, and its revenues have been permanently reduced. Reorganizations of allied and neighboring properties have either been accomplished, or are in train for easy consummation and the breaking up of the entire Union Pacific system has been and is steadily progressing. It, therefore, seems to us inexpedient, if not dangerous, to neglect this opportunity of realizing the sum offered and thus expose the government to a continuous depreciation of its security."

"It is believed that there will be higher bids, but, if not an estimate shows that, crediting amounts already received from the company the government will at least realize a sum equivalent to the principal of the subsidy bonds with interest at about 3 1-3 per cent. from their issue to the average data of their maturity, or about 3.45 per cent. from date of issue to January 1, 1897.

"The minimum of $45,754,000 guaranteed the government is in cash, so that all relations with the property will terminate upon the confirmation of the foreclosure sale.

"The course to be pursued with respect to the Central Pacific has not yet been determined."

New York, Jan. 23.—Announcement is made by the Union Pacific reorganization committee that it has come to an agreement with the government in accordance with which the latter has begun foreclosure proceedings of its lien upon the Union Pacific lines, inclusive of the Kansas Pacific line. The reorganization committee guarantees a minimum bid of something over $45,000,000 for the government's claims upon the railroad and for the government Union Pacific sinking fund, and has deposited $4,500,000 as earnest moneys. Kuhn, Loeb & Co., bankers for the reorganization committee, have assured to the committee the funds required to carry its agreement with the government into effect.

IN CONGRESS.

Programme of Business Mapped Out for the Week.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The action of the senate this week is rendered very uncertain by the condition of the Nicaragua canal bill. With that measure out of the way, the bankruptcy bill probably will be given the right of way early in the week, but even with the road cleared to the extent of the removal of the Nicaragua bill it is not probable that any headway would be made with the bankruptcy bill before Wednesday, notwithstanding it is the special order for to-day.

Tuesday Senator Chandler expects to secure a vote on his bill providing for the representation of this country at an international monetary conference. There will be several short speeches and more or less running debate on this measure, but it is believed that all substitutes and amendments will be voted down and the bill passed before the close of the day set for its consideration.

House Programme.

The most interesting feature of the house programme for the coming week unless the Nicaragua canal bill should receive consideration, which in view of the recent complications seems entirely improbable, will be the fight against the conference report on the immigration bill. Mr. Bartholdt, of Missouri, who made an ineffectual attempt to prevent the bill from going to conference, will lead the opposition to the bill as agreed on by the conferees. There seems to be little doubt that the friends of the measure will be triumphant in the end as the sentiment in favor of an immigration bill in the house is, as shown by the votes on previous occasions, in a strong majority. Nevertheless, Mr. Bartholdt proposes to do all in his power to defeat the conference report.

Two appropriation bills, the agriculture and Indian, will probably consume the remainder of the week. There are some features of both bills which may cause considerable debate. Such time as can be spared will be given to the committees to call up such bills as have been reported by them. To-day, under the rules, is District of Columbia Day.

IMMIGRATION BILL.

Material Changes Made in the Compromise.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The compromise immigration bill which has been agreed upon by the conferees of the House and Senate and which will come before the two houses for acceptance within two days, contains several new features which have not been made public. The first section of the Senate bill is retained which excludes from the United States all persons over 16 years of age who cannot read and write the English language, or the language of their native country, but is amended by the words "or residence," before "country."

For the purpose of testing the ability of immigrants to read, it is provided that they shall draw from a box a printed slip containing between twenty and twenty-five words of the constitution instead of five lines of it as required by the Senate bill, and read these words.

The plan of Representative Corliss, of Michigan, for excluding aliens for temporary employment, in the United States, reads as follows:

"That it shall hereafter be unlawful for any male alien who has not in good faith made his declaration before the proper court of record, of his intention to become a citizen of the United States to be employed on any public works of the United States, or to come regularly or habitually into the United States by land or water for the purpose of engaging in any mechanical trade or manual labor, for wages or salary, returning from time to time to a foreign country.

"That it shall be unlawful for any person, partnership, company or corporation knowingly to employ any alien coming into the United States in violation of the next preceding section of this act; provided, that the provisions of this act shall not apply to the employment of sailors, deck hands or other employes of vessels, or to train hands, such as conductors, engineers, brakemen, firemen or baggagemen, whose duties require them to pass over the frontier to reach the terminus of their runs, or to boatmen or guides on the lakes and rivers on the northern border of the United States."

Violations of these sections by aliens or citizens are made misdemeanors, punishable by $500 fine or imprisonment not exceeding one year or both, and persons coming into the country in violation of these sections are to be deported to the country whence they came.

The secretary of the treasury is authorized to permit the entrance of aliens for the purpose of teaching new arts or industries under such rules as he may provide.

The section of the Senate bill exempting from the act persons who may enter from Cuba during the disorders there, is retained.

Instead of taking effect three months after its passage, the bill is amended to take effect July 1, 1897.

QUIANA PLEASED.

She Will Profit by the Venezuelan Treaty.

Washington, Jan. 23.—The mails from British Guiana just at hand indicate that one effect of the prospective arrangement of the boundary difficulty with Venezuela has been to relax the tension which prevailed there and permit British colonial authorities to diminish the precautions that had been taken to prevent the possible forcible seizure of territory claimed by the British in the Uruan section. Heretofore an armed police guard has been maintained at Uruan but it is announced that when the term of service of the present police contingent stationed there shall have expired an Indian postholder will be substituted for service at this outlying station. Such an official will, it is said, be able to maintain the British territorial title not the less effectively than the police while the men will not be exposed to the malarial influences that have so often proven fatal.

It is also announced that the Venezuelan government has paid over the indemnity demanded in respect of what is known as the Uruan incident when certain of the British colonial police stationed at that point were arrested by Venezuelan guards, thereby causing some heated feeling for a time and even threatening the consummation of the efforts at a peaceful settlement of the whole boundary dispute by arbitration.

The terms of the treaty arranged between the United States and Great Britain for the settlement of the boundary dispute are regarded in the colony of Guiana as on the whole very favorable for Great Britain and it is confidently expected that the result of the arbitral investigation will be to confirm the British claims in every material particular. The colonists have been warned to prepare themselves for a possible departure from the Schomberg k line in the upper basin of the Cuyuni but it is said that there is no fear of their retaining the whole of the northwest district which, after all is the most important territory in dispute.

FOR BIMETALLISM.

Cannon Has a Plan for a Monetary Conference.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Senator Cannon, of Utah, has introduced the following as a substitute for the Republican international monetary conference bill:

"That within ninety days after March 4, 1897, the President of the United States shall invite the leading commercial nations of the world to appoint representatives to an international monetary conference to convene on or before October 1, 1897, at such place in the city of Washington as the President may designate; and also within said ninety days after March 4, 1897, the President shall appoint five commissioners to represent the United States at such conference, the duty of which United States commission shall be to urge the adoption of said conference of a plan for the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at some ratio ranging between 15 and 16 to 1, by the nations represented at such conference."

TREASURY DEFICIT.

Already Over $8,000,000 for Twenty Days in January.

Washington, Jan. 21.—If any argument were needed for the convening of an extra session of Congress to pass a new tariff bill or give some remedial legislation for the benefit of the treasury, it is furnished in the daily statement showing the receipts and expenditures of the treasury. Yesterday's statement shows that the excess of expenditures over receipts for the first 20 days of January amounts to $8,002,06, and the total for the fiscal year, since July 1, is almost $46,000,000. In giving the statement of the condition of the treasury Jan. 7, when the deficit for the first seven days of the month exceeded $4,000,000, it was predicted in these dispatches that the deficit for the month would be in excess of $10,000,000, and these figures promise to be exceeded.

SOUR WOOL.

How the Russians Bunco American Importers.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Much of the wool which is exported in large quantities from Russia to the United States entering principally at New York and Philadelphia, is being largely adulterated with "sour wool" gathered from the clippings of sheepskins made into clothing. This "sour wool," according to United States Consul Heenan, at Odessa, is nearly worthless to our manufacturers. In anticipation of the taking of wool from the free list, large quantities are being hurried to the United States, and this contains from 10 to 12 per cent of the adulteration of which our manufacturers are ignorant, but which could readily be detected by the custom house inspectors.

TURPIE'S ROAST.

The Hoosier Senator Stirs Up the Senate.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Mr. Turpie (Dem. Ind.) surprised the senate with a very caustic statement as to the Cuban situation. He said he would, on Monday next, call up the pending Cameron resolution for the independence of Cuba, for the purpose of making some remarks. About three weeks ago, he proceeded, there appeared a formal utterance from the secretary of state in the newspapers relative to the Cuban resolution.

At that time there was no resolution before the senate. Under such circumstances the secretary's utterances was obiter dictum of the most rude, most swift, most voluntary character. It recalled the schoolmaster of antiquity who called a whole audience to tremble at the threat of future displeasure. But the senate might have passed that by.

To-day, however, continued Mr. Turpie, a publication appeared in the newspapers—who had apparently become the messengers between the state department and congress, and messengers whom the senator did not disparage—to the effect that a compact had been entered into between the secretary of state and the new premier (Mr. Sherman) by which there was to be no further action on Cuba during the present administration.

"Allow me to say," proceeded Mr. Turpie, "that I regard such a course as a violation of the comity existing between the legislative and executive bodies of the government. It has been done only once before, when Mr. Canning——"

Mr. Sherman arose at this moment while Mr. Turpie's reference to the Canning incident was unfinished and said:

"If the senator refers to a publication to-day I will say there is not the slightest warrant for the statement made. I have had not a word with Mr. Olney on that subject and there has been no mention of an agreement or understanding."

Mr. Turpie said he was glad to accept this disavowal. But he felt the senate should do something to dissipate such reports.

"Whatever the difference may be as to the independence of Cuba," concluded Mr. Turpie, "I think every senator here favors the independence of the senate."

A Bigger Sensation.

This incident had hardly been concluded when it was followed by a genuine sensation in the form of a discussion of the new Anglo-American peace treaty, notwithstanding the rule of referring to treaties only in executive session.

It brought out statements from Mr. Sherman, Mr. Cullom, Mr. Lodge and Mr. Gray, members of the committee on foreign relations and from many other senators. Mr. Hoar precipitated the discussion. In presenting a petition from a chamber of commerce, favoring the speedy ratification of the treaty, the Massachusetts senator added some observations on the public pressure on the senate. A great many prominent men and organizations were telegraphing and writing to him urging immediate action on the treaty.

"I suppose there is no man in this body," proceeded Mr. Hoar, "who does not hail as one of the great events of the century the conclusion of this treaty, strengthening the bonds of friendship between the two English-speaking nations as well as the friendship between the United States and the whole world, and doing away with the barbarities of war." But it should not be forgotten," continued Mr. Hoar, "that the treaty was not an accomplished fact until the senate had examined and passed upon it."

The Senate had not yet acted, and in his judgment it was very poor diplomacy to have these heated utterances directed to senators, telling them they should act at once. What if it should turn out that there was some unintended advantage to England or disadvantage to the United States in the treaty which both parties would correct? In that case, when Mr. Olney suggested a change was it wise to arm Lord Salisbury with the reply that the American public had expressed its opinion favorable to the treaty as it was.

"While no man is more desirous than myself to see the era of peace on earth and good will toward men," added Mr. Hoar, "yet I wish to enter my protest against meddling with the serious duty of senators either by sermons or professor's lectures."

By this time the galleries had filled, senators had come in from the cloak rooms and there was intent interest in the discussion.

Mr. Sherman followed Mr. Hoar, and there was added interest in his statement in view of his early entry to the head of the State Department and his present position as chairman of the committee on foreign relations.

"No one is more ready than myself," he said, "to congratulate the country on the great achievement of concluding this treaty of arbitration. The time has come when the nations of the world should turn their attention to the settlement of differences by peaceful methods instead of a resort to war." At the same time Mr. Sherman said the treaty was one involving such grave consideration that it should have the most careful, mature and dispassionate consideration. That was the present purpose of the committee on foreign relations and the members of that committee were about to take up the treaty and consider it article by article with the greatest care. It would not be proper, said Mr. Sherman, for him to say what the result would be, even if he knew. But it was certain that the committee would proceed with all speed compatible with interests involved. There was no purpose to postpone or delay action.

CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY

In the Way of the New Arbitration Treaty.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The senate committee on foreign relations to-day had the arbitration treaty under discussion but the discussion was almost wholly upon its bearing on the Nicaragua canal. The committee had read the Clayton-Bulwer treaty; also all treaties and agreements between the United States and Nicaragua and Costa Rica, relating to the canal. The letter of Minister Rodriguez presented to the senate on Friday in which the Nicaraguan government protested against the present canal bill before the senate formed the basis of discussion. This letter, to talk of what the real situation was in regard to the concession and the canal and the rights of the maratime canal company as well as the rights of the United States.

Several senators seemed to be of the opinion that the Nicaraguan canal might be seriously affected by the treaty and the determination of the committee seemed to go to the bottom of this question before taking up other portions of the treaty.

Senator Morgan took an active part in the discussion, being chairman of the Nicaraguan canal committee and in charge of the bill before the senate, his views were presented at some length and with much earnestness. The Alabama senator insisted that the canal situation must be settled before the treaty could be ratified.

COMPTROLLER ECKELS.

He is Likely to Hold Onto His Present Job.

Washington, Jan. 22.—It is stated on authority that there is no truth in the published reports that Mr. Eckels, the comptroller of the currency, would accept the presidency of a Chicago trust company now in process of formation. The term of office of the comptroller of the currency under section 235 of the revised statutes is five years, and as his present term began on April 12, 1893, it is very probable that Mr. Eckels will continue in his present position at least until 1898.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

A PHILADELPHIA FIRE.

Destroys Millions of Dollars Worth of Property.

Philadelphia, Jan. 26.—The most disastrous conflagration that has visited this city in recent years broke out shortly before 7 o'clock this morning in the rear of the basement of the big grocery store of Hanscom Bros., 1317 Market street, and before the flames were gotten under control property amounting in value to $2,500,000 or more had been destroyed.

The flames were first discovered by John Wagner, a reserve policeman who was passing the big building at 6:50 o'clock. He immediately turned in an alarm. Before the engines reached the scene the entire rear portion of Hanscom & Dennetts big restaurant were ablaze. A second alarm was then sent in and a few moments later a general alarm was sounded. Immediately adjoining Hanscom Bros. on the west was the five-story building occupied by Blum Bros., manufacturers of ladies' cloaks. The flames spread with almost lightning rapidity and Blum Bros.' building was soon a mass of flames. The water seemed almost to freeze before it touched the buildings, so bitter cold was the weather. The next building on the west to be eaten up by the raging fire was that occupied by George Marshall, as a restaurant; then came the hat manufactory of George B. Wells at 1323, and the rear of the wholesale grocery of Showell & Fryer, at 1325 Market street.

Great Umbrella Factory.

While the flames were sweeping west on Market street, the umbrella manufactory of Hirsh Bros., the largest in the world, caught fire. The inflammable nature of the immense stock of light silks, added fury to the seething flames and in half an hour the beautiful eight-story building extending from 1304 to 1315 Market street, was ablaze. On the east of the Hirsh building, between 1309 and 1301 Market street were the following tenants: The Mizpah restaurant, 1307; Sterner & Bull, wholesale and retail cigar factory, 1305; wholesale and retail confectionary of A. Nickolacky, 1303; and the big drug store of H. Hillman, at 1301, the upper story of which was occupied by Potter Bros. as a photograph gallery.

On the north side of Hirsh Bros.' factory, immediately across Silver street, stood the new seven-story building of Dunlap Bros., the only printing firm in the state with a capacity for printing the big blanket Australian ballots. This building extended from 1306 to 1310 Filbert street and was 100 feet deep. The first floors were occupied by the Collins Carriage Company. The flames swept through this big structure and gutted it completely. The small buildings on Silver street which runs west from Thirteenth to Juniper were all gutted.

The shop of Contractor Lewis Havens caught fire from the rear of Blum Bros. and three firemen were caught by a falling wall.

Frank Piper, of engine company No. 30, was the only man seriously injured.

Caught Wanamaker.

At 8:15 fire was discovered in the tower of John Wanamaker's big dry goods store. A stream of water from one of the water towers was run up to the burning structure, but the supply of water was either too small or the apparatus defective, as the stream would not reach. The tower contained a handsome clock and chimes. At 9 o'clock the entire tower collapsed the clock falling through to the street floor. Two lines of hose were then gotten on top of the gigantic structure and the flames which had threatened to destroy Philadelphia's most famous store was soon under control.

The fire had been confined entirely to the Market street front and the loss sustained by Mr. Wanamaker was principally in the destruction of his clock and chimes, and the breaking of all the large plate glass windows on Market street.

The roof of the building was ablaze at one time and seemed as though the entire structure was doomed, but the hose operated by the employes of the big establishment kept the fire within bounds.

Continue to Spread.

Up to this time the flames had been confined to the block bounded by Filbert street on the north, Thirteenth on the east, Market on the south and Juniper on the west. The wind was blowing from the west and carried the flames right into the rear of the buildings on Thirteenth street. The first building to catch fire was that of Jacob Miller, gents furnishing goods, No. 6 North Thirteenth street. Then came the cigar factory of L. Tarbliss & Co., at No. 8 North Thirteenth street; McCune & Co., manufacturers of picture frames, 10 and 12; E. Pither, dry goods, No. 14; S. H. Shull, drugs, No. 16; Heines' bakery, No. 18; the cafe De Blamberg, No. 20; Budd & Kite, jewelers, 22; private residence and barber shop, 24; Huber & Weber, dry goods, 26. J. H. Stall, jeweler, occupied the first floor of 28 North Thirteenth street, and Wm. H. Steiff, wall paper manufacturer, the remainder of the building. Foley's restaurant at 30 North Thirteenth, and James Furlong's saloon at 32 and 34, were the last in the row from Market to Filbert street. All of these buildings were completely gutter. In many instances nothing is left standing but the bare walls. The flames ate their way almost directly northwest from the rear of Blum Bros.' building, gutting the rear of Showell & Fryers big grocery. The rear part of Nos. 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 and 25 North Juniper street, which buildings are used as law offices and private residences was completely burned out, leaving only the front walls standing in many cases.

When the fire was at its height flames were discovered on the window sash and on the side of the big city hall, which was exposed to the terrible heat. The city hall fire department ran a line of hose to the roof and in a few minutes had the massive structure free from all danger.

Fire Under Control.

Philadelphia, Jan. 26.—The fire is now under control, though still burning on Filbert street. About thirty buildings were destroyed. It is estimated the loss will reach nearly $3,000,000. The heaviest losers are Hirsh Bros., who suffer about $400,000. They had an immense stock on hand preparing for the summer trade. Walter Hirsh, a member of the firm, said that the stock was fully covered by insurance. This firm employed 450 hands. Hirsh Bros. occupied the top floors of the building, which extended from 1309 to 1315 inclusive. The building was owned by the estate of Henry C. Gibson, the well-known distiller, and was valued at about $600,000. Blum Bros., who occupied 1319, will lose about $150,000 on stock; Hanscom Bros., $125,000 on stock; Dennett's restaurant, stock and fixtures, $75,000; Sterner & Ball, $50,000; Mizpah restaurant, $15,000; Hillman's Drug Company, $75,000; Marshall's restaurant, $25,000; George B. Wells, $25,000; Showell & Fryer, $50,000; James Goodwin, stained glass, $15,000; James Dickson, heaters and ranges, $5,000; Dunlap Bros., $200,000, on building and machinery; Furlong, $10,000; John Wanamaker, $100,000; Nickolackys, $15,000; A. McCune & Co., $40,000; S. H. Shull, drugs, $15,000; Budd & Kite, $5,000.

The loss on the small buildings will reach in the neighborhood of $400,000. Nearly all the sufferers from to-day's fire are fully protected by insurance.

CONSUMPTION

TO THE EDITOR: I have an absolute Cure for CONSUMPTION and all Bronchial, Throat and Lung Troubles, and all conditions of Wasting Away. By its timely use thousands of apparently hopeless cases have been *permanently cured*. So proof-positive am I of its power to cure, I will send *FREE* to anyone afflicted, THREE BOTTLES of my Newly Discovered Remedies, upon receipt of Express and Postoffice address. Always sincerely yours,

T. A. SLOCUM, M.C., 183 Pearl St., New York.
When writing the Doctor, please mention this paper.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

Is the only safe and perfectly harmless remedial agent in vogue that will instantly stop pain. It instantly relieves and soon cures Headache, whether sick or nervous; Toothache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Pains and Weakness in the Back, Spine or Kidneys, Pains around the Liver, Pleurisy, Swelling of the Joints, Sprains, Bruises and Pains of all kinds. RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Sold by Druggists all the world over.

JONES FOR SENATOR.

Partof the Compact Sealed, Signed and Deliveered Long Ago.

Columbus, O., Jan. 25.—The Ohio State Journal this morning has the following regarding Senator Sherman's successor:

The political atmosphere has been thick with stories about the Ohio Senatorship, and not the least sensational is one which comes from Youngstown, the home of Lieutenant Governor Jones. The lieutenant governor has been mentioned as a possible candidate in event of Senator Sherman's resignation, but the last story makes him the only candidate. The story is to the effect that at the Zanesville convention Mr. Jones accepted the nomination for lieutenant governor upon the promise from Mr. Foraker that he would be made the successor of Senator Sherman when the senior Ohio Senator retired and that the promise is now to be fulfilled. If the story is based upon any semblance of fact it explains to a large extent the reticence of Governor Bushnell's friends in regard to Mr. Sherman's probable successor. About the only thing which Mr. Bushnell's friends have said was that he would not call a special session of the legislature and that he would not appoint Mr. Hanna. They have been noncommittal on the question as to whom Governor Bushnell would appoint. The story from Youngstown is conveyed in the following dispatch received from the State Journal's correspondent at Youngstown last night:

"County Clerk J. H. Ruhlman, upon his return from Columbus to-day, said: It is certain that Governor Bushnell will not appoint Mark Hanna to succeed Sherman; neither will the governor call a special session of the legislature, but he will appoint Lieutenant Governor Jones as Senator upon the resignation of Sherman being received."

"It is given out here that at the Zanesville convention Mr. Foraker sent for Mr. Jones to come to his car and said to him if he would accept the nomination of lieutenant governor that upon the retirement of Sherman he would make him United States senator and that notice has been served that the pledge must be carried out.

Governor Bushnell has been informed that the only way to adjust all matters is to appoint Jones, which he has agreed to do. It is certain that the friends here of Lieutenant Governor Jones have ample assurance from some quarter that he will be the next senator, as they assert it is all over except the shouting."

The emphasis of the above dispatch was naturally something of a surprise, especially since it was supposed that the senatorial matter had not yet been definitely settled and would not be until Mr. Sherman had officially tendered his resignation. The fact that the Governor had had several names under consideration made it all the more surprising and it could hardly be believed that he would have given out any definite statement this early in the contest. Governor Bushnell was informed of the story and replied: "I never said anything of the kind. I never made such a statement and no one is authorized to make such a statement for me. I did not see Mr. Ruhlman when he was here and did not even know he was in town." Beyond this the Governor did not care to make any statement concerning the matter, except to emphatically declare that there was no foundation for the dispatch. This was the only new development in the senatorial matter yesterday. The Governor remained quietly at his rooms in the Chittenden and was evidently pleased at the opportunity to get a day of rest after the exciting incidents of the past week. There will probably be something of a lull for the time, though no doubt the friends of candidates will manage to keep the matter somewhat stirred up until the appointment is finally made.

HALF NOT TOLD.

Awful Effects of the Plague in India.

Boston, Jan. 26.—Miss Abbie Child, secretary of the Woman's Board of Missions, has received the following letter from Mrs. Rev. F. E. Hume, of Bombay: "This terrible bubonic plague is working fearful havoc in nearly all branches of the native community. Some 300,000 persons have left town. The Baroda railway alone has put on six extra trains a day to provide accommodations for those leaving by their line. In the railway station here at Byculla, there sit hundreds waiting for an opportunity to leave by the great Indian Peninsula trains. The people are dazed and terrified.

"In the Hindoo burying ground down Queens Road, Dr. Jeddo, the assistant coroner says that the papers give not a fractional part of the facts as to the plague; that in one burying ground the day before there had been 130 bodies brought and they could not dispose of them fast enough. In the Mohammedan burying grounds they are laying four and five bodies in a grave, and yet with all this about us, not a native Christian has had an attack.

"Eight Europeans if not more have died. At first it was thought that about 30 per cent recovered, but later facts from various sources prove the fatality to be even greater. Our Christian school, with the two boarding departments had to be closed without any prize giving or annual school exhibition, and those of our boarders who have homes have been sent away. The rest are here with us."

ON A DESERT ISLE.

How a St. Louis Newspaper Man Was Marooned.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 26.—On Dec. 19 last E. E. Wilson, of Festus, Mo., left this city for Cuba to represent a local afternoon paper. News was received from him to-day. He left New Orleans on Jan. 2 for Cuba on a Spanish steamer, but after being out three days he was left alone to die on a desert island, the name of which he did not state. After suffering terrible privation for three days he was picked up by a passing schooner en route to Bocas del Toro, republic of Colombia. Wilson is a well-known Missourian. He earned considerable fame as a scout at the battle of Wounded Knee and later was in the secret service of the United States.

BLIZZARD IN TEXAS.

Much Stock is Being Frozen to Death.

Austin, Tex., Jan. 26.—The cold wave that struck here Sunday has swept over the entire state, and reports from Western ranges show that there is much suffering among cattle and sheep with considerable loss of life. The blizzard following the heavy rain-storm found the cattle wet and they are freezing to death rapidly. Much suffering among poor people is reported and the cold is increasing hourly.

Oregon Senatorial Vote.

Salem, Ore., Jan 25.—The vote for United States Senator is expected to begin to-morrow. Senator Mitchell's opponents are developing considerable strength and surprises are looked for.

Sons and fathers, read Thos. Slater's offer on page 4.

SUGAR TRUST.

The Trust Claims to Have Done Much for the Consumer.

Cincinnati, Jan. 25.—A special dispatch from New York to the Enquirer says:

If the statement of the sugar trust, or of persons who assume to speak for it, is accepted, the control of the sugar trade by the trust has resulted in a great saving to consumers of sugar. It is asserted that in the past nine years by a reduction in prices there has been an economy of over $40,000,000 as compared with the preceding nine years. Yet for several years the net profits of the sugar trust are said to have been in excess of $20,000,000 a year.

The trust now makes the claim that by going into the coffee business it will save for consumers of coffee as much as it pretends to have saved for consumers of sugar. The consumption of coffee is as great as the consumption of sugar. By lowering the price of coffee roasted and put up by the Woolson Spice Company, of Toledo, Ohio, which it owns, the sugar trust has compelled not only Arbuckle Bros., of New York, upon whom it is waging war in particular, but all other coffee roasters throughout the country to put down the price of coffee.

TRUSTED THIEVES.

Some Statistics On Official Embezzlements of a Year.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 25.—A record of fiduciary misconduct during the great year 1896 has been compiled by the insurance companies writing this special kind of hazard, and it shows that the defalcations aggregate the tremendous total of $9,465,921. This is less, however, than in 1895, when the stealings footed up $10,423,405. The state of New York was the source of largest loss, with $2,388,816. Delaware was the smallest, with $110. Out of 340 reported cases of embezzlement 114 stole more than $50,000, 20 more than $100,000, one more than $500,000 and one more than $1,000,000.

The losses are distributed as follows: City and county officials, $1,393,975; from banks, $3,996,970; by agents, $1,045,875; forgeries, $341,500; from loan associations, $479,587; by postmasters, $32,815; miscellaneous, $2,175,782.

DEADLOCK.

Utah Legislature Tied Up On the Senatorial Question.

Salt Lake, Utah, Jan. 26.—The senatorial situation shows strong indications of a deadlock. Seventeen ballots have been taken with but little change in the result.

The result of the six ballots taken yesterday afternoon was slightly in favor of Rawlins. The last ballot was: Thacher, 20; Henderson, 16; Rawlins, 15; Lawrence, 4; Dooley, 3; Powers, 1.

THE FERRIS WHEEL CO.

Now Asked to Give Up $88,000 World's Fair Profits.

Chicago, Jan. 23.—A judgment for $88,000 in favor of the World's Columbian Exposition company was entered in Judge Burke's court against the Ferris Wheel company. The judgment is for the World's Fair company's share of the gate receipts during the exhibition.

South Carolina Senator.

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 25.—The legislature will to-morrow elect a successor to Senator Irby. At a primary of the Democratic party last summer, Circuit Judge Joseph H. Earl was nominated for the position against Governor Evans, and he will be elected by the legislature without opposition.

Delaware Whipping Post.

Dover, Del., Jan. 22.—Mr. Aldrichs has introduced a bill in the state senate abolishing the whipping post and pillory in Delaware.

Markets and Crops.

THE TRADE REVIEW.

More Business, but Not At Better Prices.

New York, Jan. 23.—R. G. Dun & Co's., Weekly Review of Trade to-day says:

There is more business, though not at better prices. It is interesting that almost all prices which change at all are lower than a week ago, and yet business is unquestionably larger. There is larger production, but as yet not as much increase in consumption, and there is larger buying of materials, but at present only because better prices are expected in the future. A few conspicuous failures during the week have had no material influence. The market for securities is slightly stronger and yet there is very little doing. The number of hands employed, all industries considered, is slightly larger than a week ago, despite the adverse change in the rate of wages. All apprehension of foreign disturbances or money markets has passed away, but there is still great caution in making loans. It is a mistake to reckon these as symptoms of depression. On the contrary, in spite of the lower range of prices in important industries, the conditions all indicate larger production and a consumption increasing, not as largely, but steadily.

Wheat, corn and cotton exports are the key of the financial situation and during the past week wheat has declined 3c, and corn 5c, while cotton is unchanged. Western receipts of wheat are small, 581,000 bushels less than a year ago, and for three weeks of January, 4,519,719 bushels, against 7,696,799 last year, but the Atlanta exports, flour included, were 1,534,715 bushels for the week against 2,300,457 last year and in three weeks of January have been 5,019,032 bushels against 6,849,645 last year.

The price has declined for corn also, although everybody knows that the heavy exports mean relatively more than the exports of wheat. Cotton is unchanged after an eighth decline.

The woolen industry is as slow as ever and no real improvement appears in the demand for goods, although owing to the lateness of the season, there is little more doing both in spring and winter goods, without quotable change in prices. The heavy buying of wool mentioned last week has continued. Quotations have not changed as yet although western holders are quite stiff. In the minor metals a stronger tone is general with an output of 17,619 tons in the United States, and 7,685 in other countries, which is larger than in any other month since July in other countries and except in October, larger than in any other month since March last in the United States. Copper is slightly stronger at 12c. Lead has improved a little with 3 07½ asked; and tin is steady at 13.40c, with a stronger market at London. The iron industry is engaged in settling relative prices, and the slow operation retards business in many branches, since the future of prices is uncertain. Bessemer pig is a trifle lower at $10.40 at Pittsburg and grey forge, $9.40, though no further decline has occurred in eastern markets or at Chicago. But the competition of new concerns tempted to manufacture nails by the high prices recently maintained, caused slightly lower sales of wire nails at $1.35 and of cut nails at $1.25. The increase in manufacturing is perhaps more definitely shown than in any other way by the production of coke, which steadily increased, 9,817 ovens being in blast against 8,017 idle, and the week's output 100,886 tons, is over double the output of October 1.

Failures for the week have been 409 in the United States against 373 last year and 65 in Canada against 61 last year.

The aggregate of gross earnings of all railroads in the United States reporting for the first half of January is $9,737,724, a decrease of 4.4 per cent compared with last year

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., Jan. 26, 1897.

The following shows changes in government bonds during the past week:

	Jan. 26.	Jan. 19.
U. S. 4's (new) coupons	122⅝	121¾
U. S. 4's (new) registered	121⅝	121¾
U. S. 5's coupons	114⅝	114¾
U. S. 5's registered	113⅝	112⅝
U. S. 6's coupons	112¼	111⅞
U. S. 4's coupons	111⅝	111⅝
U. S. 4's registered	95	95⅜
U. S. 2's registered	103½	102⅝
Pacific 6's of '98		

Condition of the Grain Trade at the Close To-Day.

Wheat in the general markets opened fractionally lower, this morning, on lower cables. The government crop report, which, it was expected, would stimulate prices, failed to do so. This was a disappointment to holders, and long wheat was offered freely. The only thing that looked like bull news, was the light receipts in the Northwest, but this may be accounted for by the fact that there were partial railroad blockades. On the decline a good many stop orders came out.

Prices of wheat to-day:

	Opened.	Highest.	Lowest.	Close.
May.				
Toledo	92¾	92⅝	91⅝	91⅝
Chicago	79	79⅛	77⅝	77⅞
New York	85⅝	85⅝	83⅞	83⅞
St. Louis	83⅝	83⅝	83¼	83¼

January wheat at Chicago, 75@75c; July, 75@c close, 74c. At New York July wheat opened at 82c, and closed at 80¾c asked.

The government report shows: Winter wheat—Area, 22,704,000; product, 267,834,000; yield per acre, 11.8 bushels. Spring wheat—Area, 11,825,000; product, 159,750,000; yield per acre, 13.5 bushels. Total wheat area, 34,619,000; product, 427,684,000; value, $310,603,000; yield per acre 12.4 bushels; farm price per bushel, 72.6 cents. Corn—Area, 78,094,000; product, 2,283,575,000; value, $491,007,000; yield per acre 28.2 bushels; farm price per bushel, 21.5 cents. At the close of trade to-day prices were steadier.

Bradstreet's shows: 'East of the Rockies, decrease, 1,521,000 bushels; Europe increased 384,000 bushels. Corn increased 107,000 bushels; oats decreased 444,000 bushels.

The world's visible decreased 1,137,000 bushels.

Export clearances of wheat to-day, 151,914 bushels; flour, 37,582 barrels; or, wheat and flour as wheat, 601,055 bushels.

Receipts in the Northwest to-day, wheat, 103,361 bushels; on track, 127 cars; same day last year, 406 cars.

Exporters took at New York 64,000 bu. No. 2 November wheat and 8,000 bu. at out-ports; 88,000 bu. corn there, and 248,000 bu. at out-ports.

A letter dated Paris, Jan. 13, says that wheat stocks are sufficient, and continually increasing. Prices will have a tendency to increase the acreage of spring wheat in France.

Liverpool close: Spot wheat, 1d lower; futures, 1d lower. Spot corn steady, unchanged; futures steady to ½d lower.

Primary receipts to-day, 187,000 bu of wheat; same time last year, 343,000 bu.; shipments, 227,000 bu.; same time last year, 172,000 bu. Receipts of corn, 388,000 bu.; same time last year, 478,000 bu.; shipments, 197,000 bu.; same time last year, 126,000 bu.

Thoman claims we can export 60,000,000 bu. of wheat from now until July 1 and have a fair reserve. He estimates the crop at 450,000,000 bu., 25,000,000 more than any one else.

Pork at Chicago